

# Readiness Proposal

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**for the Republic of North Macedonia with FAO**

12 June 2025



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# Readiness and Preparatory Support

## Proposal Template

<b>Proposal title:</b>	Support the decarbonization process of North Macedonia through integrated management of forest fires and strengthening climate information sharing
<b>Country(ies):</b>	Republic of North Macedonia
<b>National Designated Authority(ies):</b>	Office of the President of the Government of Republic of North Macedonia
<b>Delivery Partner:</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
<b>Date of <u>first</u> submission:</b>	12 November 2024
<b>Date of <u>current</u> submission:</b>	12 March 2025
<b>Version number:</b>	Version #2



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Before submitting, please delete all the instructions in the document in grey font.

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### Section 1. Summary

<b>1.1 Country(ies) submitting the proposal</b>	Country name:  Name of institution representing NDA or Focal Point:  Name of contact person:  Contact person's position:  Telephone number:  Email:  Full office address:  Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:	Republic of North Macedonia  Office of the President of the Government of Republic of North Macedonia  Dame Dimitrovski Andovska Sandra  Special Advisor to the President of the Government of Republic of North Macedonia  Head of Department for regional and sustainable development    dame.dimitrovski@primeminister.gov.mk  Bul Ilinden nr.2, Skopje, North Macedonia  sandra.andovska@gs.gov.mk
<b>1.2 Date of initial submission</b>	12 November 2024	
<b>1.3 Last date of resubmission</b>	17 February 2025	<b>Version number</b> V. 2
<b>1.4 Institution that will implement the Readiness grant</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> National Designated Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivery Partner  Name of institution:                      Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  Name of official:                          Elizabeth A. Bechdol  Position:                                      Deputy Director-General  Telephone number:                        +39 06 57051800	

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<b>1.5 Title of the Readiness support proposal</b>	Support the decarbonization process of North Macedonia through integrated management of forest fires and strengthening climate information sharing
<b>1.6 Readiness objectives of the proposal</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Objective 1. Capacity Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Objective 2. Strategic frameworks <input type="checkbox"/> Objective 3. Adaptation planning <sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Objective 4. Pipeline development <input type="checkbox"/> Objective 5. Knowledge sharing and learning
<b>1.7 Total requested amount and currency</b>	USD 977,235
<b>1.8 Implementation period<sup>2</sup></b>	24 months
<b>1.9 Is this request a multiple-year strategic Readiness implementation request?<sup>3</sup></b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>1.10 Brief summary of the request</b>	<p>i) Climate background and institutional and policy context:</p> <p>The climate in the Republic of North Macedonia (RNM) is diverse and is influenced by the Mediterranean Sea and by the European continent to a varying extent. NM is significantly exposed to climate change and its effects. The air temperatures in RNM continued to reflect trends of a warming planet,</p>

<sup>1</sup> Please note that for adaptation planning proposals, only the box for objective 3 may be ticked.

<sup>2</sup> The implementation period shall begin on the date the grant is effective.

<sup>3</sup> Please note that proposals for adaptation planning support (objective 3) cannot be submitted as multiple-year strategic Readiness proposals.

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with positive anomaly from the normal. The mean air temperatures anomaly in 2020 was from 0.4° to 1.4°C above the reference period 1981-2010. Climate change and variability already has serious impacts on agriculture, water resources, forestry, human health, tourism and cultural heritage. The results from the climate projections show that the country will have a hotter and drier climate by 2050, with an increase in hot temperature extremes and a decrease in cold temperature extremes.

North Macedonia is a non-Annex I party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2004 and signed and ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016 and 2018 respectively, thus committing to taking an active role in global efforts for GHG emissions reductions. The country has developed four National Communications on Climate Change and three Biannual Update Reports. The country adopted its enhanced NDC in 2021, aligned with the Long-term Strategy on Climate Action and Action Plan 2021-2030, adopted in May 2021, with the main goal to reduce the national net GHG emissions of 72% by 2050 in comparison with 1990 levels and to increase resilience to climate change and its consequences. This Readiness Proposal shall support the implementation of the national climate strategic framework through contributing to the establishment of effective landscape fire management system (LFMS) and through supporting country efforts for transparent reporting and increasing climate awareness, which are identified as strategic measures throughout the national climate strategic framework, needed to achieve the national climate targets. While the forestry sector is the main CO<sub>2</sub> sink in the country, forest fires are the main constraint towards achieving the forestry sector CO<sub>2</sub> emission targets, thus the establishment of LFMS is an urgent national issue.

### ii) Problem statement

North Macedonia's forestry sector, the country's primary GHG sink, has become increasingly vulnerable to climate impacts, experiencing significant fluctuations in emissions due to intensified forest fires and shifts in land use. In 2019, net GHG emissions increased by 18.7% compared to 1990 levels, and by 48.2% compared to 2016, as forests shift from net carbon sinks to sources of emissions due to land use changes. To address these challenges, North Macedonia's Enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution (ENDC) sets ambitious targets to reduce GHG emissions in the forestry sector by 657.5 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq by 2030, primarily through integrated forest fire management and afforestation efforts.

However, achieving these targets requires strengthening national capacities for effective forest fire management and establishing integrated, sustainable forestry practices, both identified as critical mitigation and adaptation priorities in North Macedonia's climate strategies (4th National Communication and ENDC). Current gaps in technology, human resources, and infrastructure limit the country's ability to monitor, manage, and mitigate the impacts of forest fires, thus hindering efforts to meet ENDC goals. Additionally, insufficient capacity for comprehensive climate observations—critical for transparent reporting and public awareness—restricts the country's ability to analyze and communicate air quality and GHG emissions related to forest fires.

This GCF Readiness proposal seeks to address these challenges by building national capacities for integrated fire management, enhancing technical and human resource capacity for climate data collection, and establishing robust climate information services to support research and public awareness. These efforts are essential for strengthening North

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Macedonia's resilience to climate impacts and achieving its forestry sector GHG mitigation targets.<sup>4</sup>

The Readiness proposal addresses the following main barriers:

1. Lack of awareness and knowledge on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of an effective landscape fire management system
2. Lack of capacity for climate observations/monitoring and awareness on the use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments
3. Lack of assessment of the forest vulnerability to climate risks, particularly forest fire risks and lack of predictive models to prevent fires and enhance the ability of forests to enhance CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration and retention capacity of the forests
4. Lack of strategic frameworks and plans for increasing the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of the forests through effective landscape fire management
5. Lack of technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires as tool for protecting the forests

### iii) Goal and objectives

The goal of this Readiness proposal is to contribute to the decarbonization process of the Republic of North Macedonia, as targeted in the Enhanced NDC, through supporting i.e. capacities strengthening for the establishment of Integrated Forest fire management system in the Republic of North Macedonia and to enhance the transparency and the usage of the climate information through strengthening national capacities for climate observations

The readiness proposal aims to strengthen the capacity, systems, and strategic frameworks needed to enable effective forest fire management, enhance CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, and support North Macedonia's climate resilience and GHG reduction targets.

Under the GCF readiness objective 1, this project aims to strengthen national capacities to establish an effective landscape fire management system, which will help mitigate climate change impacts on the forestry sector. Capacity strengthening will also target relevant institutions ability to observe, monitor and raise awareness on the use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments. Under objective 2, this project seeks to support the national efforts to develop a strategic framework and plan to increase the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of forests through effective landscape fire management.

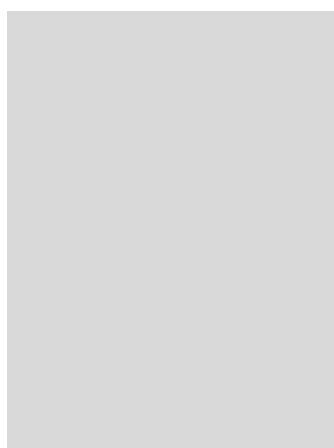
### iv) Direct and indirect beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries include:

- NDA
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE)
- National Hydrometeorological Service (NHMS)
- Ministry of Environment and physical planning (MEPP)
- Public Enterprise National Forests (PE NF)
- Crisis Management Center (CMC)
- Directorate for protection and rescue (DPR)

<sup>4</sup> NDC Implementation Roadmap for North Macedonia 2020-2030

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- Faculty of Forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering (Hans Em)
- Ministry of Defense (MD)
- Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)
- Ministry of Local Self-Government (MLS)
- Ministry of Education (ME)
- Agency for Real Estate Cadaster (AREC)

Indirect beneficiaries include:

- NGOs and civil society;
- Private forest owners;
- Municipalities

### 1.11 List of abbreviations

Abbreviation (alphabetical order)	Meaning
<b>AFOLU</b>	Agriculture, Forest and other Land Use
<b>CMC</b>	Crisis Management Center
<b>DPR</b>	Directorate for protection and rescue
<b>ENDC</b>	Enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FOLU</b>	Forestry and other land use
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas
<b>HANS EM</b>	Faculty of Forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering
<b>HD</b>	Ministry of Defense
<b>ILFMS</b>	Integrated landscape fire management system
<b>LFM</b>	Landscape fire management
<b>MAFWE</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy
<b>ME</b>	Ministry of Education
<b>MEPP</b>	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning
<b>MLS</b>	Ministry of Local Self-Government
<b>NDA</b>	National Designated Authority
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>NHMS</b>	National Hydrometeorological Service
<b>PMU</b>	Project Management Unit
<b>PSC</b>	Project Steering Committee
<b>RNM</b>	Republic of North Macedonia
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



## Section 2. Situation analysis

### 2.1. Country's background and context

The Republic of North Macedonia is a small, landlocked country in the middle of the Balkan Peninsula in Southern Europe, with a total surface area of 25,713 km<sup>2</sup>, out of which hills and mountainous terrain cover 79%, plains 19.1%, and water surfaces approximately 1.9%. Forests cover about 40% of the country's land and forest area has increased in size from 2010 to 2018 by 46,664 ha (5%) to a total of 1,007,095 ha (State Statistical Office 2022).

Climate in North Macedonia is diverse and is influenced by the Mediterranean Sea and by the European continent to a varying extent. The Republic of North Macedonia (RNM) is significantly exposed to climate change and its effects. The air temperatures in RNM continued to reflect trends of a warming planet, with positive anomaly from the normal. The mean air temperatures anomaly in 2020 was from 0.4° to 1.4°C above the reference period 1981-2010. The anomaly of the mean maximum air temperatures in 2020 was from 0.2° to 3.8°C above the reference period 1981-2010, while the mean minimum air temperatures anomaly was from -0.9°C to 1.9°C. Precipitation in the Republic of North Macedonia is unequally distributed. Two basic pluviometric regimes are present in Macedonia: Mediterranean and Continental. In the area with the Mediterranean precipitation regime, November, October and December are the months with the highest level of precipitation; in the area with a continental climate, the highest amount of rainfall occurs in May and June.<sup>5</sup>

The key risks of climate change include land degradation, food insecurity, water deficit, droughts floods, mudslide, erosion, forest fires, heatwaves, infrastructure damages, impacts on flora and fauna, including loss of biodiversity, economic and human losses, among others. Climate change and variability has already seriously impacted agriculture, water resources, forestry, human health, tourism and cultural heritage and climate change related disasters have already occurred with human losses and high infrastructure damages, as well as financial costs.

The results from the climate projections show that North Macedonia will have a hotter and drier climate by 2050, with an increase in hot temperature extremes and a decrease in cold temperature extremes. The frequency of heat waves has increased from 1987 onwards, and in contrast to the first half of 1951-2021, one heat wave has been recorded nearly every year since 1987. In the summer period, the number of consecutive dry days is projected to increase, leading to more frequent droughts. These climate extremes including droughts, floods and heatwaves will increase in frequency and magnitude in the future.<sup>6</sup>

North Macedonia is very vulnerable to extreme climate events. The sectors most at risk are the water sector, agriculture, forestry and biodiversity. The Macedonian forestry sector will be faced with higher mortality of trees, insects and fungi infestation, larger number of heavy rain days and more forest fires. Forest fire trends have changed, with the period between two severe fire events shortening. Adaptation measures include capacity building, forestry and landscape management, and monitoring.

Over the past two decades, there has been an increase in the frequency and intensity of forest fires. Between 1999 and 2021, an average of 8,837 hectares of forest were affected annually by fires, resulting in estimated damages of approximately 7.8 million EUR per year. During the period from 2015 to 2019, the average number of forest fires and associated damages showed an upward trend, with the average burned area increasing by around 3%.

Notably, the fire regime (the frequency of severe fire seasons) in North Macedonia has shifted in recent years. From 2017 to 2021, every second fire season was classified as severe, compared to once every five seasons in the previous two decades. This shift is closely linked to climate change, and is also related to changes in land use, human behavior and limited fire protection capacities.

Forestry has been identified as a key vulnerable sector in North Macedonia's Fourth National Communication. The vulnerability assessment conducted for the forestry sector highlights the strong interdependence between forest ecosystem services and forestry vulnerability: forestry practices impact the resilience of forests, while forest ecosystem health, in turn, affects the sector's vulnerability. The assessment notes that while forest productivity is expected to increase over the next decade, challenges such as inadequate forest management, illegal logging, and frequent forest fires threaten the sector's stability.

<sup>5</sup> Fourth National Communication on Climate Change of the Republic of North Macedonia

<sup>6</sup> *ibid*

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Since the last National Communication, forest fires have continued to be the primary concern for North Macedonia's forestry sector, as reflected in both the increased damage costs (EUR/year) and the larger burned areas. Forest fire patterns have shifted, with severe fire seasons now occurring more frequently. According to observed changes and projected climate scenarios, by 2035, the forestry sector is likely to face additional challenges, including higher tree mortality rates, more frequent infestations by insects and fungi, increased heavy rainfall events, and a rising number of forest fires.

According to the UNFCCC Fourth National Communication on Climate Change of the Republic of North Macedonia, the aggregate GHG emissions and removals (net emissions) in 2019 are estimated to have been 12,902 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq (including the FOLU sector). Figure 1 shows the time series of emissions and removals (given in Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq) from 1990 to 2019.

The decarbonization strategy of the country is stipulated in the 2021 Enhanced Nationally Determined contribution. In 2021, the Republic of North Macedonia communicated the following enhanced goals in support of the global efforts for GHG emissions reduction: *In 2030, 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels. Expressed in net emissions, in 2030, 82% reduction compared to 1990 levels. The enhanced NDC is focused on mitigation area, with a vision to include adaptation component in the subsequent submissions, once the relevant national strategic and planning documents are prepared and adopted.* The target disaggregated by sectors (2030 vs.1990) is: Energy: 66% reduction (mainly through decommissioning of coal-fired power plants); IPPU: 45% increase; Agriculture: 29% reduction; LULUCF: 95% removals increase; Waste: 21% reduction resulting in 2030, 82% reduction in net GHG emissions compared to 1990 levels.

There are 63 mitigation policies and measures identified in the NDC by North Macedonia by 2030, in the following sectors: Energy (incl: Energy Supply, Residential and Non-specified, Industry, Transport) Agriculture, Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) Waste Additional PAMs (enablers of mitigation action) with economy-wide target emissions coverage and CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O GHGs covered.

The forestry sector is an important part of the "Decarbonisation Dimension" of the national climate change mitigation priorities as reflected in key documents<sup>7</sup>. Forests and forest lands are the main GHG sinks in Macedonia. There are significant fluctuations in the net emissions in 2000, 2007, 2012, 2017, and 2019 (Figure 1), where one can notice increased emissions in the FOLU sector (instead of removals) due to the intensified forest fires/wildfires. The net GHG emissions in 2019 increased by 18.7% compared to 1990, or 48.2% compared to 2016, mainly because instead of storing CO<sub>2</sub> through sinks, the forestry sector has become a source of emissions.<sup>8</sup>

Sector	1990	2000	2005	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Energy	9,608	9,744	9,247	8,045	7,697	7,447	7,964	7,430	8,501
Industrial Processes and Product Use	932	888	862	836	734	768	588	651	763
Agriculture (without FOLU)	1,468	1,244	1,203	1,127	1,164	1,203	1,755	1,704	1,368
FOLU	-1,546	10,056	-2,028	-3,252	-890	-1,321	1,360	-1,763	1,634
Waste	407	413	435	574	595	607	611	622	635
<b>Total (incl. FOLU) – Net Emissions</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>22,346</b>	<b>9,719</b>	<b>7,330</b>	<b>9,299</b>	<b>8,704</b>	<b>12,278</b>	<b>8,644</b>	<b>12,902</b>
<b>Total (excl. FOLU)</b>	<b>12,415</b>	<b>12,290</b>	<b>11,747</b>	<b>10,582</b>	<b>10,190</b>	<b>10,024</b>	<b>10,918</b>	<b>10,407</b>	<b>11,268</b>

Figure 1 GHG emissions and removals by sector (in Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq), Source: 4<sup>th</sup> National Communication on Climate Change of the Republic of North Macedonia

<sup>7</sup> Third Biennial Report on Climate Change of the Republic of Macedonia, National Energy and Climate Plan until 2030,

<sup>8</sup> Enhanced National Determined Contribution of the Republic of North Macedonia (2021)

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Year	Number of fires	Burned area ha	Burned wooden mass m <sup>3</sup>	Total costs	
				MKD	EUR
1999	69	2.414,80	1.905	105.837.151	1.720.929
2000	476	46.235,73	711.782	969.852.057	15.769.952
2001	161	6.263,30	88.260	610.814.677	9.931.946
2002	65	1.186,30	24.661	18.531.939	301.332
2003	144	1.068,88	10.987	15.594.691	253.572
2004	94	892,05	4.322	91.083.591	1.481.034
2005	182	1.368,00	1.063	25.287.638	411.181
2006	138	2.085,95	12.978	148.712.782	2.418.094
2007	652	35.248,06	617.678	1.311.167.722	21.319.800
2008	249	7.411,70	35.653	280.083.235	4.554.199
2009	61	1.990,60	1.551	29.746.064	483.676
2010	106	2.239,45	2.033	30.635.825	498.143
2011	302	17.812,84	55.743	355.053.834	5.773.233
2012	367	16716	102.160	181.927.609	2.958.173
2013	160	5.069,26	15.268	109.500.306	1.780.493
2014	109	818,04	19.152	24.655.527	400.903
2015	194	5.766,32	32.494	1.282.348.110	20.851.189
2016	150	3.585,15	17.574	213.596.388	3.473.112
2017	364	13.316,01	82.981	1.911.308.151	31.078.181
2018	129	2.822,99	5.786	69.368.610	1.127.945
2019	472	15.675,00	95.938	808.669.316	13.149.095
2020	102	1.233,92	8.138	81.071.150	1.318.230
2021 (till October)	192	12.042,74	487.038	2.342.637.539	38.091.667
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4.938</b>	<b>203.262,66</b>	<b>2.435.145</b>	<b>11.017.483.912</b>	<b>179.146.079</b>
17-21	252	9.018	135.976	1.042.610.953	16.753.024
<b>99-21</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>8.837</b>	<b>105.876</b>	<b>479.021.040</b>	<b>7.788.960</b>

Figure 2 . Forest fires in North Macedonia for the 1999-2021 period. Source: P.E.National forests

The forestry mitigation actions in North Macedonia's Enhanced NDC aim to reduce GHG emissions by 657.5 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq by 2030. This target will be met through two main strategies: integrated forest fire management and afforestation, specifically by reducing the average annual burned area by 6,000 hectares and planting 5,000 hectares of barren land with oak (*Quercus* spp.), respectively<sup>9</sup>.

The urgent need to introduce integrated forest fire management, as part of a broader landscape fire management approach, is emphasized in multiple national strategies and plans. This approach aims to reduce both the frequency of forest fires and the area damaged, as well as support afforestation efforts to advance decarbonization and climate mitigation within the agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sector. These priorities are highlighted in North Macedonia's Strategy for Energy Development, National Communications on Climate Change, Enhanced NDC, and the National Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (2021–2027). Additionally, investments in forest fire management have been identified and prioritized in RNM's GCF Country Programme.

Achieving the GHG mitigation targets in the forestry sector requires strengthening national capacities for effective forest fire management and establishing integrated, sustainable forestry practices, both identified as critical mitigation and adaptation priorities in North Macedonia's climate strategies, priorities and key documents (4th National Communication and ENDC). Current gaps in technology, human resources, and infrastructure limit the country's ability to monitor, manage, and mitigate the impacts of forest fires, thus hindering efforts to meet current ENDC goals and those of future NDCs. Additionally, insufficient capacity for comprehensive climate observations, climate information services—critical for transparent reporting, public awareness and effective preparation and response—restricts the country's ability to analyze and communicate air quality and GHG emissions related to forest fires. This GCF Readiness proposal seeks to address these challenges by building national

<sup>9</sup> NDC Implementation Roadmap for North Macedonia 2020-2030

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capacities for integrated fire management, enhancing technical and human resource capacity for climate data collection, and establishing robust climate information services to support research and public awareness. These efforts are essential for strengthening North Macedonia's resilience to climate impacts and achieving GHG mitigation targets, including those specifically in the forestry sector.<sup>10</sup>

### 2.2. Institutional and Policy Framework

#### i) Policy Framework

North Macedonia is a non-Annex I party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2004 and signed and ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016 and 2018 respectively, thus committing to taking an active role in global efforts to reduce GHG emissions. Through its nationally determined contribution (NDC), North Macedonia has committed to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuels combustion by 30% by 2030 compared to the business as usual (BAU) scenario. North Macedonia's Enhanced NDC strengthened its GHG reduction targets to 53% emission reductions by 2050 in relation to 1990, or 82% net GHG emissions reduction.

At the legislative level, climate change issues are incorporated into the Law on Environment, including details on the preparation of GHG emissions inventories as well as an action plan on measures and activities to abate the increase of GHG emissions and to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. The Law on Environment stipulates that a National Communication for Climate Change is to be adopted for the purpose of stabilizing GHG concentrations at a level that would prevent any dangerous anthropogenic impact on the climate system within a timeframe sufficient to allow ecosystems to naturally adapt to climate change, in accordance with the principle of international cooperation and the goals of the national social and economic development. In July 2013, changes in the Law on Environment were adopted, and a new article (188) was added regarding the national system of GHG emissions inventories. This article called for a national inventory system of GHG emissions to be established to provide a database of relevant information to prepare GHG inventories and monitor the implementation of agreements regarding climate change. This system incorporates collection, processing, assessment, verification and quality assurance and management of uncertainty, as well as storage, use, distribution and presentation of data and information derived from entities holding data for anthropogenic emissions by sources and sinks of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The country has developed several critical strategic documents related to climate change, adopted by governmental institutions and submitted to the relevant global institutions including four National Communications on Climate Change (2003, 2008, 2014, 2023) and three Biannual Update Reports prepared and submitted to the UNFCCC (2015, 2018 and 2020), in addition to the first NDC, adopted in 2015 and the ENDC, adopted in 2021.

In September 2021, the Long-term Strategy for Climate Action was adopted defining North Macedonia's contribution to the global effort, through a pathway towards green, low carbon and climate resilient development, based on the best available information and in the context of the country's accession to the EU. As a candidate country for European Union (EU) membership, and a contractual party to the European Energy Community, the country should report all its climate change mitigation activities with the common reporting format, which is usually used by EU. These reporting requirements are more advanced than the requirements for North Macedonia and other countries which are non-Annex 1 countries of the UNFCCC. The country has also adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and established a multi-stakeholder process to mainstream the 2030 Agenda within national and local development frameworks.

At the strategic level, environmental policy is covered by the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2010, in which the energy sector and climate change are identified as the main contributors towards national sustainable development. A revised strategy has been prepared and is expected to be adopted 2024.

The Law on Forests<sup>11</sup> is the main legal act regulating forest management activities, including forest planning, logging, silviculture, afforestation, forest monitoring and protection. Forests and forestry in

<sup>10</sup> NDC Implementation Roadmap for North Macedonia 2020-2030

<sup>11</sup> Law on forests, (Official Gazzete of RM nr. 64/09, 24/11, 53/11, 25/13, 79/13, 147/13, 43/14, 160/14, 33/2015 and 44/2015)

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North Macedonia are part of the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Macedonia<sup>12</sup>, adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia in 2004. The main objectives on forests are to increase the surface of forest area in accordance with the available space and improve the forest quality by improving composition of forest species, transferring coppice forests to high forests, reconstructing degraded forests and their transition in forests with increased production.

The basic strategic document for the forestry sector is the Strategy for Sustainable Development of Forestry in the Republic of Macedonia, adopted in 2006. The strategy reflects all contemporary trends of forestry as well as outlines ways in which to address a number of problems in the Macedonian forestry in correlation with the demands of the sector, as well as in agreement with the principals of the sustainable development. In the strategy there is accompanied action plan with a set of measures relevant for the future climate change scenarios.

As part of the implementation of the second GCF readiness project, the country has developed the RNM's GCF Country Programme. The RNM's GCF Country Programme constitutes a key mechanism to advance toward national climate priorities focused on the following sectors: energy, agriculture, waste, forestry, water, transport, health, and cultural heritage. It identifies transformative project ideas addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation actions in the country's priority sectors to be funded by GCF and identify institutional needs (including readiness needs) to build and strengthen capacities relevant to climate action.

### ii) Institutional Framework

The Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE) is the key governmental body responsible for regulation and management of forestry sector. The Department for Forestry and Hunting, under MAFWE, is primarily responsible for performance of administrative duties related to the forestry sector. The sector is proposing strategic and legal documents related to maintenance and development of forestry sector in the country, monitoring on implementation of the legal framework, prepare and implement annual programme support through development funds that are prescribed by the article 95 from the Law on Forests, approval of the management plans for the forests of economy purpose and management plans for hunting areas, monitoring of the health of forest resources in the country, communication and approval of proposals for constructions or concessions in forest areas (mining, roads and pipeline constructions etc.).

MAWFE is also responsible for overseeing three national parks (Mavrovo, Pelister and Galichica) that comprise 108,000 ha, of which a large portion is forested area. There is also one area of special interest, Jasen. In addition to this, there is an ongoing process for proclamation of National Park Shara that will manage an area of over 54,000 ha of mainly forest and pasture areas. The management of forests in national parks is implemented in three zones: zone for active management, sustainable management and conservation zone.

The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MOEPP) is the key governmental body responsible for the development of climate change policies. MOEPP has been designated as the National Focal Point to the UNFCCC and as Designated National Authority (DNA) for Kyoto Protocol implementation and is therefore the key governmental body responsible for coordinating implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the Protocol.

Public Enterprise National forests is established based on the Law on forests in 1997, by merging the 30 local forest companies over the country. This company manages forests in state property (around 850.000 ha) for economic purposes. These forests are divided in more than 180 management units and for each unit, one forest management plan is prepared.

The Crisis Management Center (CMC) is an independent state administrative body with the status and function of a directorate. Its legal responsibilities include gathering information, assessing situations, analyzing risks, setting objectives, and determining tasks. The CMC also develops and implements necessary actions for crisis prevention, early warning, and response. To fulfill its mandate, the CMC ensures ongoing inter-departmental and international cooperation, consultation, and coordination.

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<sup>12</sup> Spatial plan of the Republic of Macedonia, Spatial planning strategy, Republic of Macedonia, 2004



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In the event of a national crisis, the CMC, acting on behalf of the Government, coordinates and collaborates with the international community as the designated national point of contact, and is always available.

The National Hydrometeorological Service (NHMS), as an entity in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE), with the capacity of a legal entity, is responsible for the meteorological measurements and observations in the Republic of North Macedonia and for the provision of climate data. However, there is no comprehensive climate information system established in the country. While the legislative framework is clear, the NHMS is operating at a high level with regards to institutional coordination with key ministries, the Crisis Management Centre, and international partners, the technical capacity for Climate Information Services is low and improvement is necessary regarding equipment, systems for agrometeorological stations (covering the agricultural land, producing data, analyzing the data and delivering on-line services to the end users). It would also be valuable to more fully automate information / data sharing. Additionally, the service capacity of the NHMS is also low regarding staffing – especially regarding training and looking towards engaging younger professionals within the organization.<sup>13</sup>

Current inter-institutional coordination for fire management is regular and ongoing but often intensifies only in response to a crisis. While the system is developing, further investment is needed to address key gaps. Critical elements, such as advanced monitoring technologies for early crisis detection and improved training and equipment for response teams, are still lacking. To achieve the outlined policy objectives, the integrated landscape fire management system (ILFMS) requires substantial reinforcement across all levels—legal, organizational, human, and physical resources—covering all involved institutions.

### 2.3. Gender equality analysis

In July 2022, the new Strategy for Gender Equality for the period 2022-2027 (O.G. 170/2022) was adopted which serves as the basic strategic document on gender equality, establishing the institutional roadmap of the goals and activities for promotion of gender equality and advancement of the status of women. The specific goal 2.3 focuses on integrating gender-responsive policies within environmental protection and climate change efforts. It aims to reflect gender aspects in climate actions by integrating gender perspectives into climate change mitigation and adaptation policies, monitoring and reporting systems, and ensuring that both national and local climate actions align with gender equality goals. It also strengthens capacities at all levels to gender-related climate challenges and ensures vulnerable women have equal access to early warning systems, risk reduction measures, and financial mechanisms to mitigate climate-related damages.

The Gender Equality Index in North Macedonia in 2022 was 64.5 out of 100, indicating an increase of 2.5 points compared to the previous measurement in 2019. Compared to the EU member states and the countries in the region, North Macedonia is ranked eighteenth, which is close to, but below the EU-28, which was 68. However, this progress has been slow, and significant improvements are still needed across key areas such as work, income, time allocation, and power dynamics. In 2021, according to the State Statistical Office, women represented 40.5% of the 795,085 employed individuals. Yet, a substantial gender pay gap remains, with women's gross earnings averaging only 83.6% of those of men (SSO, October 2018).

Following the international gender and climate change agenda, North Macedonia invested significant efforts to highlight the connections between gender and climate change. Supported by international funds, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy succeeded to closely integrate gender aspects into national climate change strategic documents, nominate Gender Focal Point to UNFCCC, prepare short-term gender and climate change action plan and secure budget for its implementation, support South-South cooperation with the other Balkan countries.

<sup>13</sup> Report on capacity assessment of climate information services in North Macedonia, Technical advisory services for the preparation of GCF Country Programmes

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Additionally, the national Commission of Equal Opportunities for Woman and Man and the Woman Parliamentary Club have been sensitized on gender and climate change issues, as part of the planned activities to initiate gender responsive approaches to contribute to effective implementation of climate policies. The Republic of North Macedonia ensures a gender balanced country team in the UNFCCC negotiations process as well as in preparation of national climate change documents, thus supporting the UNFCCC efforts on raising awareness of the importance of gender-responsive climate policy and action as well as highlighting women's contribution and leadership in climate action.

Under the Fourth National Communication, a methodology was introduced for integrating the UNFCCC gender references (Paris Agreement and Gender Action Plan of the UNFCCC) into the Macedonian methodology of reporting to the UNFCCC and Macedonian gender and climate change indicators for the National Communications were developed. The current strategic documents of MAWFE related to forestry do not address gender issues.

This project will ensure that all activities, including those involving the private sector, will acknowledge the specific needs and contributions of women, youth, and vulnerable groups. Equal participation of both women and men will be targeted in all organized events to ensure that deliverables are gender-sensitive, representing the interests of both genders throughout implementation. Capacity-building activities will be meticulously designed to maintain gender balance, and gender considerations be integrated at every stage of implementation.

### 2.4. Gaps and Barriers

The adaptation needs of the forestry sector prioritized in the 4<sup>th</sup> National Communication on Climate Change include: (1) Forest management planning and (2) Forest protection. While 10-year management plans have been developed, no significant efforts have been made to incorporate the impact of climate change and future scenarios. The physical protection of forests, such as against forest fires, insects and fungi has proven to be particularly challenging, predominantly due to the current lack of capacity and tools to monitor forests and the impact of climate change on them.

The urgent need to enhance institutional capacity for integrated forest fire management, as part of broader landscape fire management, is central to the country's climate mitigation and decarbonization goals for the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector. National strategic priorities<sup>14</sup> recognize this as essential for reducing both the frequency and impact of forest fires and for supporting mitigation efforts.

Despite regular inter-institutional coordination, the response often remains reactive, intensifying only with the onset of crises. The system requires significant strengthening to become fully proactive and capable of preventing and managing risks effectively. This includes improvements in legal, organizational, human, and physical resource capacities across all institutions involved in integrated landscape fire management.

Five primary barriers have been identified as hindering important progress towards achieving the decarbonization targets related to the reduction of 345 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq in emissions by 2030 by implementing effective Integrated management of forest fires, as stipulated in the ENDC. These are:

#### **BARRIER 1: Lack of awareness and knowledge on the climate mitigation potential of forests and the importance of an effective landscape fire management system**

There is lack of awareness among stakeholders on the potential that forests have in combating climate change, thus on the importance of effective landscape fire management as a measure to ensure sustainable CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacities in the country. The need for awareness and knowledge on the landscape fire management principles, effective landscape fire management and preparedness is becoming critical as landscape fires become more frequent, extensive and severe due to climate

<sup>14</sup> Strategy for Energy Development, the National Communications for climate change, the Enhanced NDC of RNM, the National Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2021-2027. Moreover, 'Forest fires management investments' was identified and prioritized in the RNM's GCF Country Programme

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change and other human activities. This is also critical to the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration targets of North Macedonia as defined in the ENDC.

### **BARRIER 2: Lack of capacity for climate observations/monitoring and awareness on the use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments**

Elaborating on the needs related to climate observation and reporting, the Fourth National Communication to Climate Change references the Capacity Assessment of the climate information services in North Macedonia (prepared as technical Advisory Services by E.Co, also used for the preparation of GCF Country Programme of RNM.). This was conducted based on the Global Framework for Climate Services, to ensure that climate information services in North Macedonia are adequate, scientifically sound and reliable to be used for better management of the risks of climate variability and change and adaptation to climate change. The assessment identified that significant technical (equipment) and HR capacity is lacking.

This barrier in capacities of climate observation/monitoring network was also identified as part of the Readiness Needs Assessment conducted under the 2nd GCF Readiness Project. There, the 'Climate Information Services' was identified as capacity barrier in prioritized sectors defined in climate strategic documents.

The lack of technical capacity, including equipment, for comprehensive climate observations and monitoring is related to the urgent need for upgrading the Meteorological monitoring system in the direction of unifying certain technical and software components and maximize the efficiency and co-location of both GHG and air quality networks, as well as the use of existing infrastructure. Additionally, national modelling capacity and respective qualified human resources are lacking.

Moreover, a barrier has been identified in the awareness of possibilities for using the climate data, including air quality and GHG emissions data, for guiding mitigation efforts in the country. For that purpose, the project proposes development and implementation of awareness raising campaigns aiming at promoting the use of atmospheric information to guide citizens, entities and stakeholder mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments.

### **BARRIER 3: Lack of assessment of the forest vulnerability to climate risks, particularly forest fire risks and lack of predictive models to prevent fires and enhance the ability of forests to enhance CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration and retention capacity of the forests**

The absence of an assessment of the vulnerability of the forests to climate risks, focused on forest fires, including a risk map, is a critical barrier of the efficiency of the landscape fire management that significantly hampers effective prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. This also hampers the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of the forests in North Macedonia. A landscape fire risk assessment and map shall provide detailed information about the potential for fire occurrence across different regions/landscapes based on factors such as vegetation types, topography, climate conditions, and historical fire data. Without this essential tool, managing and mitigating landscape fire risks will continue to be challenging and inefficient.

Additionally, the absence of a national-level methodology for classification of the forest fuel and risk assessment on the vulnerability to forest fires based on the forest fuel present at the risk area is a significant barrier in effective landscape fire management that has far-reaching implications for landscape fire prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. This kind of risk assessment will improve decision-making, evaluation, and risk management of wildland fires because it considers vegetation changes due to previous fires and the dynamic nature of forest fuels. The results of the assessment, including a map of classified forest fuels, shall be filled in as data in the Macedonian Forest Fire Information System (MKFFIS) and shall be used as input in the modelling modules of MKFFIS.

Although the Macedonian Forest Fire Information System (MKFFIS) is designed to be a comprehensive tool for tracking, assessing, and managing forest fires in North Macedonia, its potential is not fully realized due to lack of functionalities of the system in modelling and predictability of future crisis scenarios and support the preparedness of the institutions for appropriate responses with national sources of data. These functionalities include importing data from the assessment of the vulnerability of the forests to forest fire risk, data from the assessment of the forest fuel classification, as well as dynamic modules for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data. For that



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purpose, the system needs to be fed with close to real-time data, which is currently lacking due to lack of technology (reference to barrier 5).

By addressing the absence of a landscape fire risk assessment and map, upgrading the modeling capacity of the MKFFIS and provision of close to real-data for detection and monitoring of forest fires (reference to barrier 5), the capacities for forest fire prediction and prevention shall be increased leading to increased capacity of the forest for CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration i.e. towards achieving the national NDC mitigation targets.

### **BARRIER 4: Lack of strategic frameworks and plans for increasing the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of the forests through effective landscape fire management**

The absence of strategic and planning document for national landscape fire management, which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires represents a significant challenge and barrier in effectively achieving the GHG reduction national targets. The strategic/planning document will serve as an essential blueprint for coordinating efforts among stakeholders, an overview of the historical fire events, and current stage, vegetation management, setting priorities, and allocating resources for fire management activities through the entire process of LF management in all phases from prevention to post-fire management activities. Addressing this barrier leads to concerted and desired efforts to develop a science-policy-developed LFM plan based on the involvement of diverse stakeholders in the LFM.

### **BARRIER 5: Lack of technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires as tool for protecting forests**

Early fire detection is critical to protecting forests from fires and enabling rapid responses to minimize fire spread. Existing forest fire detection methods cannot quickly detect forest fires and evaluate the fire risk of these sensitive areas.

One of the main barriers in effective forest fire management in North Macedonia is related to the close-to-real time detection, timely reaction and prevention. The country is lacking state-of-the-art technologies which will support close to real-time detection of fires in the open space allowing for timely reaction and prevention of the crisis escalation.

It is envisaged that the national system should have an approach to close real-time monitoring (possibly through satellite imagery/drones/ground observations/remote sensing technologies), for which purposes a monitoring network should be scoped, designed and deployed.

The monitoring network shall provide data which should be further processed by MKFFIS for the purposes of dynamic risk assessment. The current MKFFIS lacks module i.e. functionalities to integrate and process the close real-time data, for what purposes it needs to be upgraded (reference to barrier 3).

### **Problem statement**

The forestry sector in North Macedonia faces several significant barriers to effective climate adaptation and mitigation, particularly regarding forest fire management, which is critical for CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration and resilience to climate change. These barriers include a lack of awareness on the role of forest management in climate mitigation, insufficient capacity for climate observation and real-time fire monitoring, and an absence of key frameworks and assessments to inform and guide effective fire prevention and management. Without addressing these barriers, North Macedonia's ability to meet its NDC targets and protect its forest resources from escalating climate risks remains limited.

The goal of this readiness proposal is to strengthen the capacity, systems, and strategic frameworks needed to enable effective forest fire management, enhance CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, and support North Macedonia's climate resilience and GHG reduction targets.

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### 2.5. Beneficiaries

The project is targeting mainly Government institutions as direct beneficiaries. The government institutions directly benefiting from the project activities include:

- NDA
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE)
- National Hydrometeorological Service (NHMS)
- Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MEPP)
- Public Enterprise National Forests (PE NF)
- Crisis Management Center (CMC)
- Directorate for Protection and Rescue (DPR)
- Faculty of Forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering (Hans Em)
- Ministry of Defense (MD)
- Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)
- Ministry of Local Self-Government (MLS)
- Ministry of Education (ME)
- Agency for Real Estate Cadaster (AREC)

In addition to the governmental institutions, the project indirect beneficiaries also include:

- NGOs and civil society;
- Private forest owners
- Municipalities

The following table, presents the direct relationship between the planned activities and the direct and indirect beneficiaries:

<div> <div>Main project beneficiaries</div> <div>Project activities</div> </div>	NDA	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy	Ministry of Environment and Physical planning	Crisis Management Center	Directorate for Protection and Rescue	Public Enterprise National Forests	Faculty of forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering	National Hydrometeorological Service	Ministry of Defense	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Ministry of Local self-government	Ministry of Education	Agency for Real Estate Cadaster
Activity 1.3.1.a- Capacity building of relevant stakeholders on climate mitigation potential of forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change													
Activity 1.3.3.a- Strengthen national capacities for climate information monitoring/ observational network and use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments													
Activity 1.3.3.b-Establishing mechanism for climate information sharing to guide GHG mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments													
Activity 2.2.5.a- Assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks, including maps of forest areas with a high level of climate risks for selected areas													

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Activity 2.2.5.b- Upgrade modelling capacities for predictability and prevention of forest fires towards increasing the CO2 sequestration capacity of the forests													
Activity 2.2.6.a- Assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing strategic, legal and institutional framework related to LFM in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination to support the national climate mitigation efforts as defined in the ENDCs													
Activity 2.2.6.b- Development of strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires													
Activity 2.2.7.a- Introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close-to-real time as tool for protecting the forests as the main CO2 sequestration capacity in the country													

### 2.6. Stakeholder engagement

The development process of the readiness proposal was initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy and the NDA based on the urgent need for the establishment of National Integrated Landscape Fire Management System (ILFMS), which need was set as priority to the MAFWE by the current Government of the RNM.

The need for establishment of ILFMS is explicitly identified as priority in all relevant national strategic documents related to climate change including Enhanced NDC of RNM, Fourth National Communications for Climate Change, the National Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2021-2027, the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Forestry in the Republic of Macedonia, and National Strategy for Energy Development. Moreover, interventions related to forestry fire management were prioritized during the process of development of the RNM's GCF Country Programme, developed under the second GCF Readiness Project in the country, implemented by FAO..

The NDA has indicated the importance of strengthening the national climate observational and monitoring capacities as a way to measure the effects of the establishment of ILFMS in long-run, as well as strengthen the transparency in climate data reporting. This need is also identified in the latest Fourth National Communication on Climate Change, as well as in the 'Capacity Assessment of the climate information services in North Macedonia', prepared as technical Advisory Services by E.Co, also used for the preparation of GCF Country Programme of RNM.

FAO was requested by the MAFWE and the NDA to support the Readiness proposal as a delivery partner of the Readiness Grant.

Coordination and consultation meetings were initiated and held in MAFWE in August and September 2024, where most of the direct beneficiaries of the action have participated including MAFWE, Crisis Management Center, Directorate for Protection and Rescue, Faculty of Forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering, Public Enterprise National Forests, and FAO. The purpose of the consultation and coordination meetings was to discuss the national priorities and capacities related to the establishment of ILFMS and the possibility for FAO to support the government address its urgent needs through the GCF Readiness Programme.

Coordination and consultations on the GCF readiness national activities were conducted with MoEPP during October 2024, where NDA has informed MoEPP on the planned activities and the approach of implementation of the project proposal.

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The draft project proposal was discussed with the beneficiaries during consultation meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> October among NDA, FAO and NHMS and 22<sup>nd</sup> October among NDA, FAO, MAFWE, PE National Forests, Faculty of Forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering. During these consultation meetings, the proposed activities were discussed in detail and their scope was agreed on. Further consultations on the details of the proposed project activities were ongoing with the beneficiaries until the finalization of the project proposal.

### Synergies and Complementarity

Details of Readiness grants in the country (date of approval and implementation status/period, DP)	Objectives and key results expected / delivered	Synergies and Complementarities	Key implementation challenges and learnings
<b>Readiness I</b>  <b>Support for the management of an effective national coordinative mechanism regarding the Green Climate Fund</b>  Delivery Partner: FAO Total approved budget: \$ 300,000 Status: Completed	Key results delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structures of the country coordination mechanism were set in place, building consensus on a national level and adopted by the Government. This coordination mechanism was put in place and became fully operational as a result of the First readiness project and continued to function as the main coordination system for all GCF activities.</li> <li>No objection procedure was established including prioritization mechanism</li> <li>Procedure for the monitoring, oversight and streamlining of climate finance functioning of the NDA was developed</li> <li>Key national stakeholders were identified and involved in all GCF related processes</li> <li>NDA portal was developed (www.greendevlopment.mk) as a tool for communication on all GCF related activities.</li> </ul>	Both Readiness I and this Readiness proposal have activities for establishing adequate capacity, systems and networks to support the planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities. While the Readiness I has initiated the process of establishing and building national capacities for access GCF funds with focus on the directly involved stakeholders in the GCF coordination mechanism, this Readiness Proposal is sector focused targeting gap in the capacities of the stakeholders involved in the forest fire management system, which is a national priority sector and measure from the Enhanced NDCs.  Moreover, this Readiness Proposal is also, as the previous Readiness projects, supporting building capacities for information sharing related to climate change planning and reporting.  This Readiness project will continue to use the NDA portal, developed under Readiness I for info and knowledge sharing.	A strong consultation process with all relevant stakeholders is necessary in order to achieve a consensus on strategic decisions regarding the GCF as for the country coordination mechanism and the prioritization procedure.  For a successful stakeholder engagement, it is necessary to use a mix of different tools and methods. The information shared with the stakeholders need to be of good quality and timely shared in order to ensure a good stakeholder engagement and commitment.
<b>Readiness II</b> <b>Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of country work programme</b>  Delivery Partner: FAO Total approved budget: \$ 663,245 Status: Completed	Key results delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity strengthened of the NDA and other institutions within the country coordination mechanism on GCF matters</li> <li>RNM's GCF Country Programme was developed</li> <li>List of identified technology solutions aligned with the RNM's GCF Country Programme was developed</li> <li>Potential candidates for DAE were identified based on a conducted rapid needs assessment</li> <li>Gap assessment for GCF accreditation was developed for the prioritized DAE</li> </ul>	There are synergies between this Readiness proposal and the Readiness II related to the capacity building efforts for national key stakeholders (as described for the synergies of this proposal and the Readiness I).  This Readiness proposal is sector focused targeting the forestry sector and the significant gap identified that limits the national decarbonization process i.e. forest fires. The forestry	The online platform for storing and making training available to the public was assessed as a very useful knowledge instrument.  The process of development of GCF Country Programme requires an extensive process of analysis of country priorities and strategic documents as well as a wide stakeholder

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Concept Notes for prioritized project/programme idea were developed</li> </ul>	<p>sector was identified as one of the priority sectors in the CWP developed under the Readiness II and is included in the GCF pipeline. This Readiness proposal also focuses on strengthening capacities on climate data observation, which is a readiness need identified during the Readiness II.</p> <p>This Readiness project will use the list of identified technology solutions developed under Readiness II to identify possible climate technologies to be used under the planned activities.</p>	<p>consultation process is necessary for a good quality document.</p> <p>The accreditation process is a lengthy process and requires serious commitment from the side of the DAE.</p>
<b>Readiness III</b> <b>Building capacity towards sustainable human capital development in North Macedonia</b> <b>Delivery Partner: GIZ</b> <b>Total approved budget: \$ 820,076</b> <b>Status: Under implementation</b>	<p>Key results delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthened capacity of the NDA and the Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) to guide and advise on climate finance and project implementation with an integrated dimension of sustainable development of human capital;</li> <li>Enhanced capacities and coordination of the key ministries, relevant public institutions, civil society, academia and private sector with regard to mainstreaming climate change aspects in the health, labor &amp; social protection and education sectors;</li> <li>Produced data, knowledge and policy recommendations to mainstream climate change considerations into strategic frameworks for the three sectors.</li> </ul>	<p>Both the Readiness III project and this readiness proposal aim to complement the previous and ongoing readiness efforts by targeting human capital development through a sectoral approach. Both Projects support building the capacities of climate relevant and vulnerable sectors. Also, both projects aim to produce data, knowledge and policy recommendations to mainstream climate change considerations into sector strategic frameworks. And while the Readiness III focuses on the sectors health, labor and social protection and education, this readiness is focused on climate specific and prioritized sector forestry and strengthening capacities of stakeholders involved in the integrated management of forests aiming at improving the capacity of the forests as GHG sink.</p>	<p>The project is still in early stage of implementation</p>
<b>Readiness IV</b> <b>Strengthening capacities and developing strategic frameworks for building low carbon and climate resilient society in the Republic of North Macedonia</b> <b>Delivery Partner: FAO</b> <b>Total approved budget: \$ 633,221</b> <b>Status: Under implementation</b>	<p>Key expected results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity of members of coordination mechanism further strengthened to collect, process, analyze and report climate finance data</li> <li>update of the Government's e-Government system developed and implemented, including special modules on Climate action tracking for SDG Agenda 2030, NDC revision and the EU Green Agenda.</li> <li>Fund for Innovation and technology development (FITD) capacities/standards improved as a direct access applicant to meet and maintain the GCF accreditation standards</li> <li>Capacities of relevant stakeholders, including private sector from the agriculture, forestry, waste, transport, biodiversity, water, cultural heritage, and energy sectors built in project identification, prioritization, development,</li> </ul>	<p>This Readiness project will continue the efforts of the Readiness IV in regard to the strengthening of the capacities of relevant stakeholders. Readiness IV aims at strengthening the capacities of the national GCF coordination mechanism, including the NDA, as well as strengthening the capacities of other national stakeholders to support development of quality concept notes and funding proposals and the implementation of climate resilient and low-emission measures in priority sectors for climate action. While this readiness proposal focuses on strengthening capacities of stakeholders from the forestry sector for supporting the achievement</p>	<p>The project is still in early stage of implementation</p>

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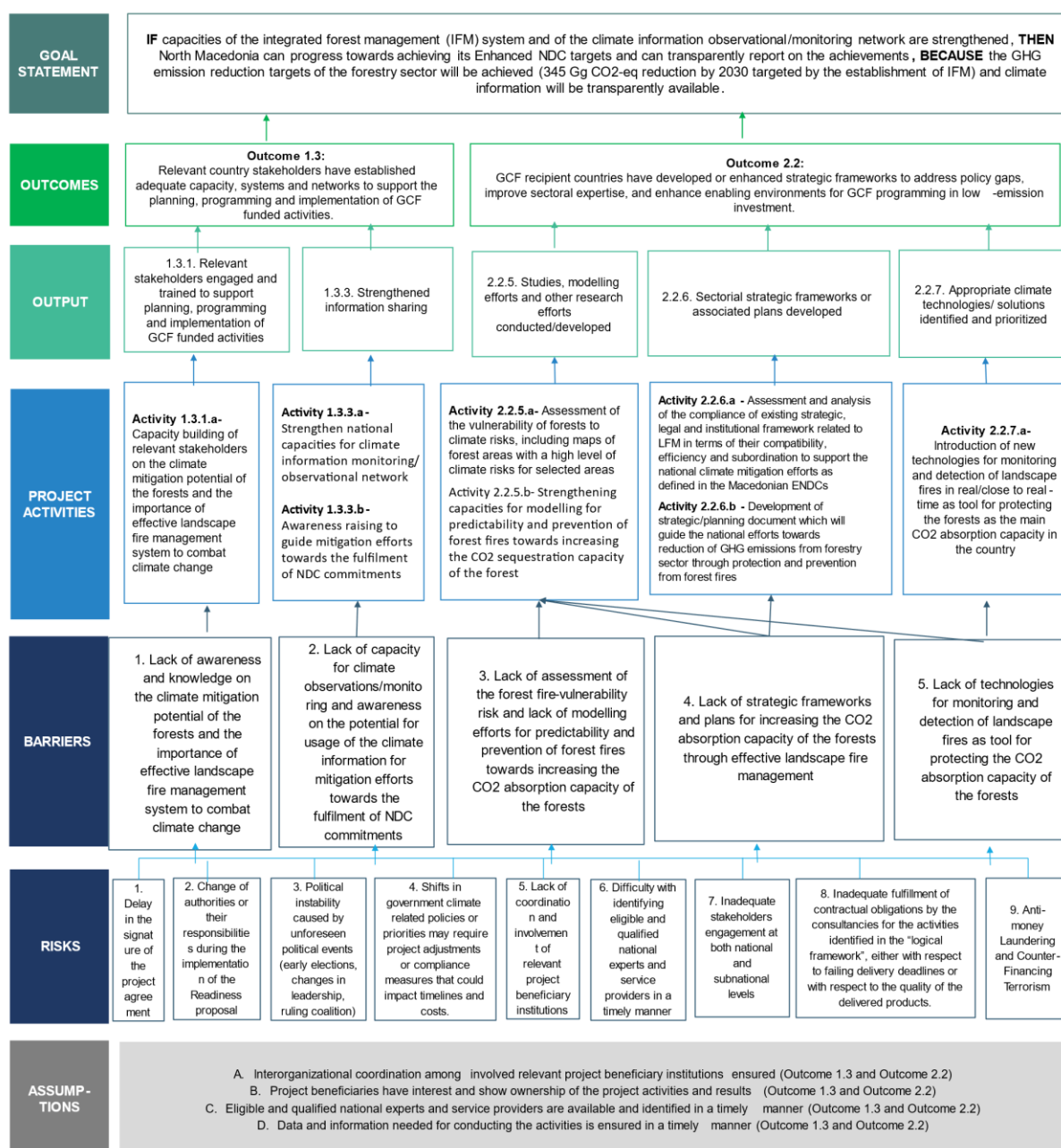
	<p>implementation and management and evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased private sector awareness and knowledge on climate finance and investment opportunities</li> <li>A RNM's GCF Country Programme reflecting Republic of North Macedonia development priorities and being consistent with the country's national climate strategies is updated</li> <li>Enhanced concept note for the prioritized climate change adaptation project "Irrigation development and Climate Adaptation of agriculture in semi-arid regions"</li> </ul>	of the NDC mitigation targets.	
<p><b>National Adaptation Planning. NAP capacity development, spatial planning, adaptation in the National Platform for DRR</b></p> <p>Delivery Partner: UNDP</p> <p>Total approved budget:</p> <p>Status: Planned</p>	<p>Expected results: Developed and adopted National Adaptation Plan</p>	<p>The results from this Readiness proposal shall contribute as input information to the development of the NAP, having in mind that the forestry sector and forest fires are affecting the adaptation capacity of the country. In addition to this, the data obtained through this project will be used by the NAP for the development of the roadmap for adaptation investment for the priority sectors (including forestry) assessing the possibilities for full size investment projects.</p>	<p>The project is in early stage of implementation</p>

## Section 3. Theory of change (ToC)

### 3.1. Theory of Change – Diagram



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### 3.2. Theory of Change – Narrative

The overall **GOAL** of the Project proposal is to support the decarbonization of the Republic of North Macedonia, as targeted in the Enhanced NDC, and to enhance the transparency and the utilization of the climate information.

The **GOAL STATEMENT** thesis is: **IF** capacities of the ILFMS and of the climate information observational/monitoring network are strengthened, **THEN** North Macedonia can progress towards achieving its Enhanced NDC targets **BECAUSE** the effectiveness of the national forest fire management system will be increased and climate information will be transparently available and effectively utilized.

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The Project aims at addressing the following barriers through the following activities:

Project activities	Main project barriers	1. Lack of awareness and knowledge on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system	2. Lack of capacity for climate observations/monitoring and awareness on the use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments	3. Lack of assessment of the forest vulnerability to climate risks, particularly forest fire risks and lack of predictive models to prevent fires and enhance the ability of forests to enhance CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration and retention capacity of the forests	4. Lack of strategic frameworks and plans for increasing the CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of the forests through effective landscape fire management	5. Lack of technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires as tool for protecting the forests
Activity 1.3.1.a- Capacity building of relevant stakeholders on climate mitigation potential of forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change						
-Activity 1.3.3.a- Strengthen national capacities for climate information monitoring/ observational network and use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments						
Activity 1.3.3.b- Establishing mechanism for climate information sharing to guide GHG mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments						
Activity 2.2.5.a- Assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks, including maps of forest areas with a high level of climate risks for selected areas						
Activity 2.2.5.b- Upgrade modelling capacities for predictability and prevention of forest fires towards increasing the CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of the forests						
Activity 2.2.6.a- Assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing strategic, legal and institutional framework related to LFM in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination to support the national climate mitigation efforts as defined in the ENDCs						
Activity 2.2.6.b- Development of strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires						
Activity 2.2.7.a- Introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close-to-real time as tool for protecting the forests as the main CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity in the country						

The Project has two main objectives: capacity building and strategic framework development.

### Objective 1- Capacity Building

The expected outcome of the activities which objective is capacity building is:



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**Outcome 1.3-** Relevant country stakeholders (which may include executing entities, civil society organisations and private sector) have established adequate capacity, systems and networks to support the planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities.

**Output 1.3.1- Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities**

The Output 1.3.1 shall be achieved through the implementation of the following activities:

**Activity 1.3.1.a- Capacity building of relevant stakeholders on climate mitigation potential of forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change**

The activity aims at increasing the awareness and knowledge among stakeholders on the importance of forests in combating climate change, thus on the importance of effective landscape fire management as a measure to ensure sustainable CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacities in the country. As the need for awareness and knowledge on the landscape fire management principles, effective landscape fire management and preparedness is becoming critical as landscape fires become more frequent and severe due to climate change and as are critical to the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration targets of North Macedonia as defined in the ENDC.

A training curriculum on effective landscape fire management shall be developed in the frame of this activity that can be used and delivered to different categories of stakeholders, including: MAFWE, PE NF, CMC, DPR, Ministry of defence (MD), NGOs and civil society; Private Forest owners, Municipalities. In addition to the training curriculum, a training programme will be designed and prepared for delivery, including all needed demonstrative materials and training kits. A series of at least 5 trainings focusing on effective landscape fire management will be organized and delivered during the project to different relevant stakeholders.

Experts shall be engaged for the development of the training curriculum. The training curriculum shall be consulted with the relevant key stakeholders.

The training curriculum shall be used during the project for delivery of at least 5 trainings targeting up to 100 participants in total for which purpose a training expert shall be engaged. The trainings are targeting audience from variety of stakeholders (e.g. Relevant representatives from the MAFWE, PE NF, CMC, DPR, Ministry of defence (MD), NGOs and civil society; Private Forest owners, Municipalities). The main beneficiary of the activity is the PE Macedonian forest, which has the mandate to deliver trainings to relevant stakeholders and after finalization of project activities shall use the training curriculum in their future training activities, helping to ensure the sustainability of the activity.

**Expected deliverables:**

- **D1.3.1.a1-** Developed training curriculum on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change
- **D1.3.1.a2-** Purchased and installed kits and materials for training demonstrative purposes (IT and video equipment and special equipment for conducting the training (such as professional grade fire simulators, fire training props, smoke machines, visual aids for training, consumables etc.)
- **D1.3.1.a3-** 5 (five) one-day trainings delivered for relevant stakeholders and training reports prepared.

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### Output 1.3.3- Strengthened Information sharing

The Output 1.3.3 shall be achieved through the implementation of the following activity:

**Activity 1.3.3.a- Strengthen national capacities for climate information monitoring/observational network and use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments.**

The National Hydrometeorological Service of RNM, responsible for observing and monitoring climate data, currently faces significant technical and human resource capacity limitations. A capacity needs assessment conducted by E.Co highlighted these gaps, with resource constraints being a primary issue. Meanwhile, the institution is under growing pressure from both the public and the government to deliver reliable climate data, particularly as the government's new strategy aims to make climate information more accessible and meet international climate commitments.

Despite recent governmental efforts and ongoing investments, the NHMS has not yet been able to fully address the identified gaps. This activity, therefore, focuses on identifying, implementing, and operationalizing effective technical solutions to strengthen the Service's observational capacities for greenhouse gas emissions and air quality and disseminating this information.

An analysis of the existing sub-national and local observational capacities for air quality and GHG emissions will be conducted, including existing modelling capacity and qualified human resources and their efficiency. The analysis shall result in recommendations for strengthening the observational network and its efficiency, which will include methods and recommendations for utilizing the climate data collected for awareness raising purposes in direction of supporting the national mitigation efforts. The analysis shall be followed by technical design and purchase and operationalization of the equipment.

The observational equipment on a sub-national level will be installed in and interoperable with the existing sub-national observational stations of NHMS, in at least three (3) locations. The observational equipment is planned to be installed in locations with high risk levels of forest fires, to serve for monitoring purposes of the effects of the forest fires on air quality and GHG emissions.

While the equipment on local level is planned to be mobile and serve for monitoring, research and awareness raising purposes, providing also inputs for the awareness raising campaign (activity 1.3.3.b). At least ten (10) mobile observational stations will be purchased and operationalized as result of the project activity. The purchased and operationalized equipment will be handed to the NHMS.

The detailed technical specification for the equipment to be purchased, networked and operationalized, including recommendations for usage of the collected data for research, reporting and awareness raising purposes, will be developed based on the analysis conducted during the project. For the purposes of conducting the analysis and development of the technical specification, relevant expertise will be contracted.

The observations and monitoring that will be conducted during the project by the NHMS and contracted service provider from both sub-national and local observational networks, shall serve for research and modelling purposes, the results from which shall be methods and recommendations for information sharing for the purposes of awareness raising and call for action activities (Activity 1.3.3.b).

**Expected deliverables:**

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- **D1.3.3.a1-** Prepared report on the Analysis for strengthening the observational capacity for sub-national and local air quality and GHG emissions, including methods and recommendations for utilizing the climate data collected
- **D1.3.3.a2** – Prepared report on the technical design of observational network for both sub-national and local GHG emission estimation and air quality loads to maximize the efficiency and co-location of both GHG and air quality networks and maximizing the use of existing infrastructure
- **D1.3.3.a3-** Purchased and operationalized equipment for at least three (3) regional and ten (10) local observational stations

### **Activity 1.3.3.b- Establishing mechanism for climate information sharing to guide GHG mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments**

Based on the analysis conducted under Activity 1.3.3.a and the methods and recommendations for utilizing the climate data collected for the purposes of supporting the national mitigation efforts, a mechanism for climate information sharing shall be designed for at least three (3) municipalities. The aim of the information sharing mechanism is establishing a long-term practise of regular publication of local atmospheric and climate data followed by recommendations for the stakeholders on how to contribute to the mitigation efforts.

During the project, awareness raising campaign is planned to be developed and conducted aiming at promoting the use of atmospheric information to guide citizens and entities mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments. For the purposes of design of the campaign and implementation of the awareness raising actions, collected sub-national and local climate and air-quality information shall be used, based also on the information derived from monitoring equipment purchased under activity 1.3.3.a shall be utilized. The data collection i.e. monitoring and the research that will be conducted for the design of the awareness raising activities shall be conducted on academic level, for which relevant expertise shall be contracted.

#### **Expected deliverables:**

- **D1.3.3.b1-** Reports on established mechanism by at least three (3) municipalities for sharing climate information and recommendations for stakeholders' actions towards reducing GHG footprint
- **D1.3.3.b2-** Prepared design and action plan for awareness raising campaign to guide mitigation efforts and monitor national strides towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments
- **D1.3.3.b3-** One report detailing results of awareness raising campaigns conducted in at least three (3) different municipalities to promote the use of atmospheric information to guide mitigation efforts and monitor national strides towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments. Report to include information on awareness raising, media monitoring and outreach efforts.

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**Objective 2** - Strategic Frameworks - GCF recipient countries develop robust strategic frameworks to guide GCF investment in complementarity other climate financiers

The Project Outputs 2.2.5, 2.2.6, 2.2.7 aim at achieving the Project Objective 2. The expected outcome of the activities under this objective is:

**Outcome 2.2- GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF programming in low-emission investment.**

**Output 2.2.5-** Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed

The Output 2.2.5 shall be achieved through the implementation of the following activities:

**Activity 2.2.5.a- Assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks, including maps of forest areas with a high level of climate risks for selected areas**

An assessment of the vulnerability of the forests to climate risks, focusing on forest fires, will be conducted. The assessment is expected to provide information on the impact of the climate risks on the forests and the potential for occurrence of forest fires in three (3) selected pilot areas and detailed information about the potential for fire occurrence across different regions/landscapes based on factors such as vegetation types, forest fuels, topography, climate conditions, and historical fire data.

The assessment is expected to contribute to the efficiency in the landscape fire management that significantly hampers effective prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, thus hampers the CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity of the forests in North Macedonia.

The assessment will include a risk assessment on the vulnerability of the forest to fires based on the forest fuel present at the risk areas, which assessment is expected to improve decision-making, evaluation, and risk management of wildland fires. For that purpose, a methodology for classification of the forest fuel shall be developed under this activity.

The assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks, focused on forest fires, shall be conducted by engaged experts. CMC, PE NF, DPR and Faculty of FSLAEE shall be closely consulted during the preparation of the assessment. Three (3) high risk areas shall be selected as pilot areas for assessment.

For the three selected pilot areas, maps identifying zones at high risk of climate-related hazards, with a focus on forest fires, will be developed. These will include detailed maps classifying forest fuels (biomass and other natural combustible materials) in each area, covering both forested regions and illegal dumping sites.

The data from the assessment and the developed maps shall be filled in the MKFFIS and shall be used as input in the modelling modules of MKFFIS (Activity 2.2.5.b).

### Expected deliverables:

- **D2.2.5.a1-** Prepared Report on the assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks, including forest fire risk, for selected areas
- **D2.2.5.a2-** Developed Methodology for Classification of forest fuels and risk assessment on the vulnerability of the forest to fires based on the forest fuel present at the risk areas
- **D2.2.5.a3-** Developed maps of areas with a high fire risk level for selected 3 pilot areas, including layer on the forest fuels as per the methodology for classification

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- **D 2.2.5.a4-** Upgraded Macedonian Forest Fire Information System (MKFFIS) with the respective data from the assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks and maps of areas with a high fire risk

### **Activity 2.2.5.b- Upgrade modelling capacities for predictability and prevention of forest fires towards increasing the CO2 sequestration capacity of the forests**

The activity refers to upgrading the MKFFIS which shall improve the performance of the system in modelling and predictability of future forest fire scenarios and support the preparedness of the institutions for appropriate responses with national sources of data. Additionally, to the import of data from the assessment of the vulnerability of the forests to forest fire risk (Activity 2.2.5.a), data from the assessment of the forest fuel classification (reference to Activity 2.2.6.c), these functionalities include also dynamic modules for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data, which data shall be collected as result of Activity 2.2.7a.

By upgrade the modelling capacity of the MKFFIS and provision of close-to-real data for detection and monitoring of forest fires, the capacities for forest fire prediction and prevention shall be increased leading to increased capacity of the forest for CO2 sequestration i.e. towards achieving the national NDC mitigation targets.

For the purposes of developing technical description of the functionalities for upgrading the MKFFIS, expert will be engaged, who will work closely with CMC, which institution is managing the MKFFIS and is the main beneficiary of the activity. For the upgrades of MKFFIS, a service provider shall be contracted.

#### **Expected deliverables:**

- **D 2.2.5.b1-** Report on the technical description of the needed upgrades of MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios for predictability and prevention of forest fires towards increasing the CO2 sequestration capacity of the forests based on close-to-real time data
- **D 2.2.5.b2-** Upgraded MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios for predictability and prevention of forest fires towards increasing the CO2 sequestration capacity of the forests based on close to real-time data

### **Output 2.2.6- Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed**

The Output 2.2.6 shall be achieved through the implementation of the following activities:

#### **Activity 2.2.6.a- Assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing strategic, legal and institutional framework related to LFM in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination to support the national climate mitigation efforts as defined in the ENDCs**

For the purposes of development of strategic and planning document for national landscape fire management, which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires, an assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing strategic, institutional and legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination will be conducted as a preparatory activity. The assessment and analysis shall result in recommendations for improvement that shall support the national efforts toward mitigation of

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climate change as targeted in the ENDCs. Depending on the recommendations, amendments to the regulatory/strategic framework shall be possibly prepared.

The assessment will be conducted by a legal expert engaged in the project. The analysis will include a wide stakeholder consultation process (including at least : MAFWE, NHMS, MEPP, PE NF, CMC, DPR, Faculty of FLAE, MD, MIA, MLS, ME, AREC)

### Expected deliverable:

- **D2.2.6.a1-** Prepared report on the analysis with recommendations of the strategic, legal and institutional framework related to LFM in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination to support the national climate mitigation efforts as defined in the Macedonian ENDCs

### **Activity 2.2.6.b-** Development of strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires

Strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry as well as enhancing its capacity for sequestration and retention sector through protection and prevention from forest fires shall be developed. The strategic/planning document will serve as an essential blueprint for coordinating efforts among stakeholders, an overview of the historical fire events, and current stage, vegetation management, setting priorities, and allocating resources for fire management activities through the entire process of LF management in all phases from prevention to post-fire management activities. Addressing this gap leads to concerted and desired efforts to develop a science-policy-developed LFM plan based on the involvement of diverse stakeholders in the LFM.

The Plan is intended to include the enforcement details of the National Landscape Fire Management Strategy (under development) i.e. the measures and activities of all involved institutions, the time frame for their implementation and monitoring indicators. The strategic document is expected to be adopted as the National Plan for forest fire protection (envisaged as 10 years document 2025-2035).

The Plan will be developed by engaged experts through a wide consultation and participatory approach of all involved stakeholders (including at least : MAFWE, NHMS, MEPP, PE NF, CMC, DPR, Faculty of FLAE, MD, MIA, MLS, ME, AREC).

### Expected deliverable:

- **D2.2.6.b1-** Developed and adopted National Plan for the protection of forests from fires with Action Plan, aiming at reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector

## **Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized**

The Output 2.2.7 shall be achieved through the implementation of the following activity:

### **Activity 2.2.7.a-** Introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close-to-real time as tool for protecting the forests as the main CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration capacity in the country

The measure is aimed at introducing state-of-the-art technologies which will support close-to-real time detection of fires in the open space at selected three (3) pilot areas for timely reaction

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and prevention of the crisis escalation. It is envisaged that the system will have an approach to close real-time monitoring (possibly through satellite imagery/drones/ ground observations/remote sensing technologies). The monitoring network shall provide data which should be further processed by MKFFIS for the purposes of dynamic risk assessment. (reference to Activity 2.2.5.b).

### Expected deliverables:

- **D 2.2.7.a1-** Prepared Report on the assessment with recommendations for technologies that need to be introduced to support close-to-real-time detection of fires in the open space allowing for timely reaction and prevention of forest fires
- **D 2.2.7.b1-** Implemented new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time in at least 3 (three) pilot areas and report from the piloting

Several groups of potential risks are identified for the project implementation, these risks are assessed on a level of low and medium risks, and there have not been identified high risks for the project implementation. The risks are further divided into groups including:

Operational risks: Delay in the signature of the project agreement; Difficulty with identifying eligible and qualified national experts and service providers in a timely manner

Political risks: Change of authorities or their responsibilities during the implementation of the Readiness proposal; Political instability caused by unforeseen political events (early elections, changes in leadership, ruling coalition); Shifts in government climate-related policies or priorities may require project adjustments or compliance measures that could impact timelines and costs.

Implementation risks: Lack of coordination and involvement of relevant project beneficiary institutions; Inadequate stakeholders' engagement at both national and subnational levels.

Technical/contractual risk: Inadequate fulfilment of contractual obligations by the consultancies for the activities identified in the "logical framework", either with respect to failing delivery deadlines or with respect to the quality of the delivered products.

Sustainability risks: Low level of sustainability of activities; Over-dependency of project beneficiaries on certain technical resources

Compliance risk: Anti-money Laundering and Counter-Financing Terrorism

Section 5.3 further outlines those identified potential risks and describes how they can be mitigated to allow for a successful implementation of all envisaged Readiness activities.

The success of the implementation is also based on the following assumptions:

1. Interorganizational coordination among involved relevant project beneficiary institutions ensured;
2. Project beneficiaries have interest and show ownership of the project activities and results;
3. Eligible and qualified national experts and service providers are available and identified in a timely manner;
4. Data and information needed for conducting the activities is ensured in a timely manner.

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### Section 4. Logical framework

Please see attached LogFrame.

### Section 5. Implementation arrangements and other information

#### 5.1. Implementation arrangements

FAO will serve as the Delivery Partner responsible for implementing this readiness grant, including all fiduciary and financial management, procurement of goods and services, monitoring, and reporting activities. These actions will adhere to FAO's policies and procedures, as well as the Second Amended and Restated Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement signed by GCF and FAO on 25 August 2020 (referred to as the "Framework Agreement").

FAO will implement the activities in a manner that emphasizes the ownership, coordination and leadership role of the NDA. The involvement of the NDA and other government institutions will primarily encompass providing guidance and oversight for project implementation. However, these entities will not have direct responsibility for executing the activities outlined in this proposal. Additionally, no GCF funds will be allocated to government staff, and FAO will not transfer any funding or obligations to these institutions.

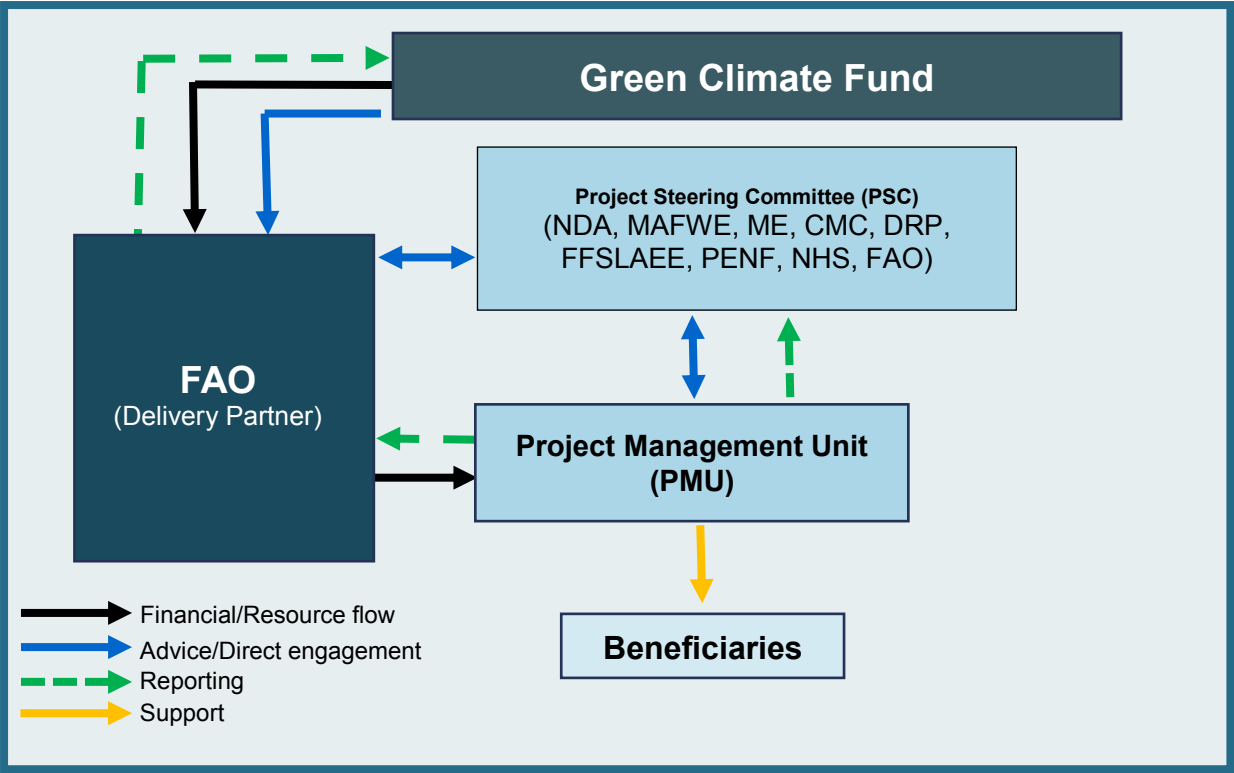
To ensure effective governance and strategic decision-making for this Readiness proposal, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established. The PSC will consist of the NDA, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE), Ministry of Education (ME), Crisis Management Centre (CMC), Directorate for Protection and Rescue (DPR), Faculty of Forest Sciences, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Engineering (FFSLAEE), Public Enterprise National Forests (PENF), National Hydrometeorological Service (NHS) and FAO. The primary objective of the PSC is to ensure strong inter-institutional coordination and oversight. The PSC engages with relevant stakeholders, fostering collaboration, and ensuring their input is considered in decision-making processes. Additionally, the PSC will review and validate technical products, with a specific focus on avoiding any overlap or duplication of work being carried out by other ongoing projects in North Macedonia.

To ensure FAO's utmost accountability, it is imperative that the decisions made by the PSC adhere to high standards. These standards should encompass effective management for development results, value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and promoting effective international competition. By upholding these principles, FAO can ensure responsible and accountable project management, delivering optimal outcomes, ensuring efficient use of resources and maximizing the impact of Readiness activities.

FAO will establish and oversee a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) responsible for the implementation of the Readiness activities and ensuring effective coordination with the PSC. The PMU will be managed and staffed by FAO, and it will be led by a Project Coordinator. Given the nature of the activities, the Project Coordinator will be based within FAO facilities. However, they will operate under the direct supervision of FAO to ensure seamless coordination and alignment with the grant objectives.



Implementation flow map



In accordance with the established procedures for FAO cooperation programme implementation, the government of North Macedonia and FAO will sign a project agreement document that will serve as the legal basis for the project implementation, monitoring and reporting. FAO has an office in North Macedonia that will manage and coordinate implementation of the grant.

Starting date and disbursements

The start date and disbursements will be made in accordance with the Framework Agreement.

5.2. Implementation and Execution Roles and responsibilities

Entity	Position Title	Outputs	Responsibilities	Minimum Qualifications
DP	Forest fires management specialist /training program development	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities	To lead the training program and curriculum for climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced degree in forestry, agriculture, environmental science, or related field</li></ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimum 5 years of professional experience in the field of forest fire management</li></ul>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated experience in developing curriculum</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Trainer on landscape fire management	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities	To lead the preparation and delivery of trainings for climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in forestry, agriculture, environmental science, or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in the field of forest fire management</li> <li>• Demonstrated training experience</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Climate change specialist/capacity building	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized	To contribute and streamline the climate aspects into the: training program and curriculum for climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change; analysis of the observational capacity for regional air quality and GHG; assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management; development and adoption of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires; preparation and adoption of National Methodology for Classification of forest fuel To oversee: the preparation and adoption of the assessment of Areas with a High Fire Risk Level; the upgrade MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data; the preparation of the methodology and map of forest fuel types; the introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in forestry, agriculture, environmental, economic, engineering science, or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in the field of climate change</li> <li>• Demonstrated experience in climate change capacity building activities</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Communication and monitoring specialist	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities. Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed	To lead the organizational, communication and visibility aspects in the activities related to capacity building i.e. trainings. To lead the organizational, communication and visibility aspects of the activities related to the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management and the activities related to the development and adoption of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires To oversee the contracted entity for the design and implementation of the awareness raising activities i.e. campaign for guiding the mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in economics, marketing or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in the field of communication in environment related projects</li> <li>• Demonstrated experience in communication and awareness raising activities related to climate change</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	International Forest fires management	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to	To provide international experience and expertise in the preparation of Training	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in forestry, agriculture,</li> </ul>

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	specialist /training program development	support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities	Curriculum on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change	environmental science or related field Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of forest fires management</li> <li>• Demonstrated experience in risk assessment</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	International natural resources and climate change specialist	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized	To contribute with international expertise in the streamlining of the climate change and natural resources aspects into the: training program and curriculum for climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change; the design of the awareness raising activities for guiding mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments; the preparation and adoption of the assessment of areas with a high fire risk level; assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management; the development of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires; preparation and adoption of National Methodology for Classification of forest fuel types. To guide and oversee the introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time.	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in environmental science, economics or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of natural resources and climate change</li> <li>• Demonstrated international experience in natural resources and climate change</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Climate Information specialist	Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing	To lead the preparation of the analysis of the observational capacity for regional air quality and GHG and to support the preparation of the design of observational network for both regional and local GHG emission estimation and air quality loads	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in environmental science, economics, information science, engineering or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in climate data analysis and/or air quality management.</li> <li>• Demonstrated experience in designing observational networks and methodologies for GHG emission estimation.</li> <li>• Proficient in using climate modeling tools and data analysis software.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Technical expert/observational network	Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing	To lead the preparation of the design of observational network for both regional and local GHG emission estimation and air quality loads and to support the preparation of the analysis of the observational capacity for regional air quality and GHG	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in environmental science, economics, engineering or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in designing and implementing observational networks for environmental monitoring.</li> </ul>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proven experience in GHG emission estimation and air quality assessment methodologies.</li> <li>• Strong background in data collection, analysis, and interpretation, with proficiency in relevant software and tools.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	International climate information specialist	Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing	To provide international experience and expertise in the preparation of the analysis of the observational capacity for regional air quality and GHG and to support the preparation of the design of observational network for both regional and local GHG emission estimation and air quality loads	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in environmental science, economics, information science, engineering or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 7 years of professional experience in climate information systems and air quality monitoring.</li> <li>• Demonstrated expertise in analyzing observational capacity for GHG and air quality data.</li> <li>• Proven experience in designing and implementing observational networks for environmental data collection and analysis.</li> <li>• Familiarity with international climate policies and frameworks related to air quality and GHG emissions.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Forest fires management specialist /risk management specialist	Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed	To lead the preparation and adoption of assessment of areas with a high fire risk level and support the upgrade of the MKFFIS with the respective data To contribute with the expertise in forest fires in the: assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management; development of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires; preparation of National Methodology for Classification and Map of forest fuel types	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in forestry, agriculture, environmental science or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in forest fire management and risk assessment.</li> <li>• Demonstrated expertise in compliance analysis of legal frameworks related to fire management.</li> <li>• Experience in developing national strategies and methodologies for fire prevention and management.</li> <li>• Proven skills in data analysis, mapping, and the use of relevant software for fire risk assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	Environmental Specialist	Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized	To contribute and streamline the environmental aspects and ensure compliance with the environmental national regulation in the: preparation and adoption of assessment of areas with a high fire risk level; assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management; development and adoption of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires and preparation and adoption of National Methodology for	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in environmental science, ecology, forestry, or a related field.</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 5 years of professional experience in environmental management and compliance.</li> <li>• Demonstrated experience in assessing and analyzing legal frameworks related to environmental</li> </ul>

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			Classification of forest fuel types and Maps of forest fuel types	<p>protection and fire management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proven track record in developing national environmental strategies and methodologies.</li> <li>• Familiarity with climate technologies and solutions relevant to forest management and fire prevention.</li> <li>• Strong analytical and communication skills for stakeholder engagement and reporting.</li> </ul>
DP	Software Developer / System Integrator	Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed	Lead the activity and oversee the work of the contracted entity for the upgrade MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in computer science, software engineering, information technology, or a related field.</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in software development and system integration.</li> <li>• Proven expertise in designing and implementing data-driven models and scenarios.</li> <li>• Experience with real-time data processing and integration of dynamic modules into existing systems.</li> <li>• Strong proficiency in programming languages such as Python, Java, or C#.</li> <li>• Familiarity with database management systems and data analytics tools.</li> <li>• Excellent problem-solving skills and the ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.</li> </ul>
DP	Modeling and Simulation Expert	Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed	Lead the development of the functionalities and technical design of the upgrade of MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in information science, computer engineering or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in modeling and simulation within environmental or computational contexts.</li> <li>• Proven experience in developing technical designs and functionalities for data-driven models.</li> <li>• Strong understanding of real-time data processing and its applications in modeling scenarios.</li> <li>• Proficiency in relevant programming languages (e.g., Python, R, or</li> </ul>

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				<p>MATLAB) and modeling software.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Familiarity with system integration and database management systems.</li> <li>• Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to work effectively in multidisciplinary teams.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	GIS Specialist	<p>Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed</p> <p>Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed</p> <p>Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized</p>	<p>Provide GIS expertise to the: preparation of maps of areas with a high fire risk level; upgrade of the MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data; preparation of Maps of forest fuel types; introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time</p>	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in Geospatial Science, Environmental Science, Geoinformatics, Surveying and Mapping, Civil Engineering or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in GIS analysis and mapping.</li> <li>• Demonstrated experience in preparing risk assessment maps and forest fuel type maps.</li> <li>• Proficiency in GIS software (e.g., ArcGIS, QGIS) and remote sensing technologies.</li> <li>• Familiarity with data integration for modeling and real-time monitoring systems.</li> <li>• Strong analytical skills and the ability to communicate complex spatial information effectively.</li> <li>• Experience in implementing new technologies for environmental monitoring and assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	National Policy and Legal Expert	<p>Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed</p>	<p>Lead the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management</p> <p>Give legal support to the development and adoption of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires and to the preparation and adoption of National Methodology for Classification of forest fuel types</p>	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in law, Environmental Science or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of experience in legal analysis and policy development related to environmental or forestry sectors.</li> <li>• Demonstrated expertise in legal compliance and regulatory assessment in environmental management.</li> <li>• Proven experience in drafting and supporting the adoption of national policy or strategic frameworks.</li> <li>• Strong understanding of landscape fire management regulations and standards.</li> <li>• Ability to collaborate effectively with multidisciplinary teams and stakeholders.</li> </ul>

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<b>DP</b>	<p>Forest fuel classification methodology specialist</p>	<p>Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed</p>	<p>Lead the preparation of National Methodology for Classification of Combustible Forest fuel types and support the preparation of Maps of forest fuel types</p>	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in forestry, agriculture, environmental science or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of experience in forest fuel classification, wildfire risk assessment, or forest management.</li> <li>• Demonstrated expertise in developing classification methodologies for forest fuels and mapping combustible vegetation types.</li> <li>• Proficiency in GIS and remote sensing tools for environmental mapping and analysis.</li> <li>• Experience in collaborating with cross-disciplinary teams to implement classification standards and frameworks.</li> <li>• Strong analytical skills in forest ecosystem and fuel load assessments.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	<p>Environmental waste management specialist</p>	<p>Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed</p>	<p>Provide environmental waste management expertise in the preparation of Maps of materials with risk for forest fires, focusing on the waste in the illegal landfills</p>	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in forestry, environmental science or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of experience in environmental waste management, particularly in wildfire risk or hazardous materials assessment.</li> <li>• Proven expertise in mapping and analyzing waste materials, especially those presenting a fire risk in unauthorized or illegal landfills.</li> <li>• Experience working with regulatory frameworks related to waste management and land-use planning.</li> <li>• Strong ability to collaborate with multidisciplinary teams to support strategic frameworks for environmental protection.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	<p>International Forest fires specialist /risk management specialist</p>	<p>Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed</p>	<p>To provide international experience and expertise in the development of the National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires and in the preparation and adoption of National Methodology for Classification of forest fuels</p>	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in forestry, agriculture, environmental science or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 7 years of international experience in forest fire management, risk assessment, and wildfire prevention strategies.</li> <li>• Proven expertise in developing national-level fire</li> </ul>

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				<p>protection plans and classification methodologies for forest fuels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive knowledge of global best practices in forest fire management and fire risk reduction frameworks.</li> <li>• Strong capability in coordinating with cross-functional teams to design and implement fire management strategies.</li> <li>• Experience working with governmental and international organizations to adopt and implement forest fire protection frameworks.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	IoT and Technology Specialist	Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized	Lead the activity and the development of the technical specification of the equipment and technical design of the network for the introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in information science, computer engineering or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of experience in IoT technology, network systems, or environmental monitoring solutions.</li> <li>• Proven expertise in designing technical specifications and developing infrastructure for real-time monitoring and detection systems.</li> <li>• Strong knowledge of sensor technologies, data transmission, and network design for environmental applications.</li> <li>• Experience in the integration of IoT solutions for remote sensing and disaster risk management.</li> <li>• Ability to coordinate with multidisciplinary teams to implement IoT-enabled monitoring systems.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	National Project Manager	<p>Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities</p> <p>Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing</p> <p>Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed</p> <p>Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed</p> <p>Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized</p>	Grant delivered within the approved scope, cost, and timeline. Oversee and manage the delivery of all project deliverables	<p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance degree in Project Management, Law, Business Administration, Economics, Engineering or related field</li> </ul> <p>Professional qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 5 years of experience in project management, ideally within environmental, climate change, or sustainable development sectors.</li> <li>• Demonstrated expertise in managing multi-stakeholder projects, ensuring adherence to budgetary and timeline constraints.</li> <li>• Proven experience in coordinating cross-functional teams to deliver</li> </ul>



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				comprehensive project outputs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong knowledge of climate adaptation, mitigation technologies, and strategic framework development.</li> <li>• Excellent skills in communication, stakeholder engagement, and project documentation.</li> </ul>
<b>DP</b>	National Project administration and finances	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed Output 2.2.7 Appropriate climate technologies/ solutions identified and prioritized	To conduct and ensure compliance with GCF and FAO procedures of all the administrative and financial processes related to the project activities including recruitment and procurement procedures. To provide operational support to the National project manager and the international and national consultants.	Academic qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum BSc degree in Project Management, Business Administration, Economics, environmental science or related field</li> </ul> Professional qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated experience in supporting project implementation and is aware of FAO rules and procedures in administrative and financial management.</li> </ul>

### Roles of Government institutions and other partners

Agency/Key Stakeholder	Type	Role in the project
NDA	Government institution	GCF Focal Point/NDA. Oversight of the implementation of the readiness grant.
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy	Government institution	As main beneficiary of the project, MAFWE is involved as stakeholder in all project activities i.e. will be consulted on all project deliverables. MAFWE shall provide data and participate in the consultations related to the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework (Activity 2.2.6.a). to the development and adoption of the National Plan for Forest Fire Protection (Activity 2.2.6.b)
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning	Government institution	As responsible institution for the development, management, and coordination of environmental and climate change policy, MoEPP will be involved as consulted party on political and technical aspects to the project implementation where applicable.
Crisis management centre	Government institution	As institution responsible for the management of MKFFIS, CMC will be involved as main beneficiary in the integration of new technologies for landscape fire detection and monitoring (Activity 2.2.7.a), upgrading the existing MKFFIS system (Activity 2.2.5.a and 2.2.5.b). CMC will be involved in the consultations related to the development and adoption of the National Plan for Forest Fire Protection (Activity 2.2.6.b), preparation of Map of High Fire Risk Areas with data provision and technical expertise (Activity 2.2.5.a). CMC will be also involved as

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		stakeholder in the activities for strengthening the capacities (Activity 1.3.1.a).
Directorate for protection and rescue	Government institution	This entity shall be involved in the consultations related to the development and adoption of the National Plan for Forest Fire Protection (Activity 2.2.6.b), preparation of Map of High Fire Risk Areas with data provision and technical expertise (Activity 2.2.5.a) and will be also involved as stakeholder in the activities for strengthening the capacities (Activity 1.3.1.a).
Public enterprise National Forests	Public Enterprise	As responsible institution for implementing forest protection strategies, the entity will be providing information and will be consulted in the developing of the National Plan for Forest Protection (Activity 2.2.6.b), mapping high fire risk areas (Activity 2.2.5.a). The entity will be also involved as stakeholder in the activities for strengthening the capacities (Activity 1.3.1.a).
Faculty of Forestry, Landscape Architecture and Ecoengineering	Academia	The Faculty will be provider of information and materials that shall serve the project in the development of the Map of areas with high risk of forest fires (Activity 2.2.5.a), as well as the legal assessment (Activity 2.2.6.a) and the development of the National Plan for the protection of forest from fires (Activity 2.2.6.b) and the introduction of technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires (Activity 2.2.7.a).
National Hydrometeorological Service	Government institution	The NHMS is the main beneficiary for Activity 1.3.3.a, so it will participate in the strengthening of climate information observational/monitoring networks, supporting the development of climate observational networks (Activity 1.3.3.a and activity 1.3.3.b).  Involved as consulted party in the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination (Activity 2.2.6.a).
Ministry of defense (MD)	Government institution	Involved as consulted party in the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination (Activity 2.2.6.a).
Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)	Government institution	Involved as consulted party in the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination (Activity 2.2.6.a).
Ministry of local self-government (MLS)	Government institution	Involved as consulted party in the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination (Activity 2.2.6.a).
Ministry of education (ME)	Government institution	Involved as consulted party in the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination (Activity 2.2.6.a).
Agency for real estate cadaster (AREC)	Government institution	Involved as consulted party in the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management in terms of their compatibility, efficiency and subordination (Activity 2.2.6.a).
Local self-governmental units	Local government	Municipalities at risk of forest fires will be involved in capacity building activities i.e. training (Activity 1.3.1.a).
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)		Interested members will be involved in capacity building activities i.e. training (Activity 1.3.1.a).
Private owners of forest		Interested members will be involved in capacity building activities i.e. training (Activity 1.3.1.a).
FAO	Delivery Partner	FAO, as the Delivery Partner, will be responsible for implementation of the readiness support and will carry out all fiduciary and financial management, procurement of goods and services, monitoring and reporting activities under this proposal in compliance with FAO's policies and procedures and with the Framework Agreement.  FAO will provide support and project assurance through the FAO Representation in Azerbaijan as well as through its regional office

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		<p>based in Budapest and headquarters in Rome. This will include project oversight, technical support, and monitoring functions.</p> <p>FAO will ensure compliance with the GCF's Revised Environmental and Social Policy, which includes Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) Investigations, updated Gender Policy and the Indigenous Peoples Policy for the implementation of this grant.</p>
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### 5.3. Risk and Mitigation Measures

#### 5.3.1 Risk Assessment and Risk Monitoring Plan

The FAO Manual for Project Cycle Management, as well as the Framework for Environmental and Social Management, along with other relevant manuals and guidelines, have been utilized, to thoroughly assess the risks associated with the project and to identify effective mitigation measures.

Risk category <sup>15</sup>	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s) If relevant, specify the strategies adopted by the ongoing readiness grant in the country to mitigate the risks	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
<b>Political risk</b>	Delay in the signature of the project agreement	Low	Medium	Start the dialogue on the project agreement with the government the earliest possible stage (after the first feedback from the GCF).	NDA-FAO
<b>Political risk</b>	Change of authorities during the implementation of the Readiness proposal.	Low	High	Establish cooperation and initiate dialogue with all relevant stakeholders NDA-FAO	NDA-FAO
<b>Political risk</b>	Political instability caused by unforeseen political events (early elections, changes in leadership, ruling coalition)	Low	Medium	Political instability may disrupt project operations and decision-making processes, and also influence relationships with key stakeholders, affecting project support, and collaboration. Thereof project team and FAO country office will stay informed about political developments and maintain open communication with stakeholders. Contingency plans on how to adapt to changing political environments will	NDA-FAO- Line ministries

<sup>15</sup> Risk categories can include: Operational, Political, Stakeholder engagement, Implementation, Natural-hazards related disasters, Unsustainability, Compliance, Money laundering, terrorist financing and prohibited practices, etc.

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				be developed in case risk occurs.	
<b>Political risk</b>	Shifts in government climate related policies or priorities may require project adjustments or compliance measures that could impact timelines and costs.	Low	Medium	Monitoring policy developments that could impact project deliverables, timelines and costs, providing guidance to government and in case required, adjustments or compliance measures will be considered.	FAO- in cooperation with NDA and line ministries
<b>Implementation</b>	Lack of coordination and involvement of relevant project beneficiary institutions	Low	Medium	Risk may occur due to the involvement of multiple stakeholders; Project will provide technical support and advice based on clearly identified functions and responsibilities of the relevant stakeholder and beneficiaries in close coordination with the NDA and line ministries	NDA-FAO- Line ministries
<b>Operational</b>	Difficulty with identifying eligible and qualified national experts and service providers in a timely manner	Medium	High	FAO project team will consult the delivery partners of the past GCF-funded readiness projects in the country and tap into their providers' pool.	FAO
<b>Involvement risk</b>	Inadequate stakeholders' engagement at both national and subnational levels.	Low	Medium	Prioritize communication and collaboration with relevant stakeholders and their participatory engagement in project via regular meetings, updates on progress, asking for feedback in open and transparent way communication	NDA-FAO- Line ministries
<b>Technical/ contractual risk</b>	Inadequate fulfillment of contractual obligations by the consultancies for the activities identified in the "logical framework", either with respect to failing delivery deadlines or with respect to the quality of the delivered products.	Low	Medium	FAO project team will ensure regular communication with contracted partners in order to ensure compliance with deadlines and address any issues as soon as they arise.	FAO
<b>Compliance risk</b>	Anti-money Laundering and Counter-Financing Terrorism	Low	High	FAO will be responsible for overseeing the development of Terms of Reference	FAO

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				<p>(ToRs) and related work plans, ensuring clear roles and responsibilities are defined. To carry out the project activities, national and international consultants and firms from FAO's database and roster will be engaged. In line with FAO's procedures, field missions will be accompanied by escorts whenever necessary.</p> <p>In accordance with clause 11.01 (f) of the Framework Agreement, FAO will adhere to its own fiduciary principles and standards. This includes conducting "know your customer" checks, adhering to anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) measures, and complying with financial sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council. These measures enable FAO to align with the objectives of the Policy on Prohibited Practices and the principles of the AML/CFT Policy.</p> <p>Furthermore, the project will ensure proper adherence to the revised FAO Whistleblower Protection Policy, to ensure the protection and appropriate handling of whistleblower reports in line with FAO's guidelines.</p>	
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### 5.3.2 Sanctions and Restrictive Measures

In accordance with FAO rules and regulations, FAO will perform all necessary actions to ensure that the project be implemented in full compliance with any UN sanctions list that may be of relevance. No entities or individuals who are subject to or affected by United Nations

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Security Council sanctions regimes will be involved in this proposal or its associated activities, either as counterparts or beneficiaries.

### 5.3.3 Grievance Redress Mechanisms

Within the framework of this Readiness proposal, the NDA shall facilitate the resolution and/or clarification of any concern directly linked to implementation of the project that beneficiaries and involved stakeholders may have. In case the conflict refers to FAO, the NDA will present the complaints and claims to the Representation of the FAO in the country. If a notice of receipt of the claim is not received within 7 days, the complaint or concern must be sent to the FAO's regional office in FAO-REU@fao.org for action. The project beneficiaries may send a complaint to the FAO Office of the Inspector General, who shall carry out an independent investigation. The procedure for the claims is detailed at <http://www.fao.org/aud/>. Email: Investigations-hotline@fao.org.

The follow information to file a complaint directly to the Independent Redress Mechanism - Green Climate Fund:

Email: irm@gcfund.org

Office telephone: +82 32-458-6186; Fax: +82 32-458-6096; Cellphone: +82 10-4296-1337

### 5.3.4 Anti-money Laundering and Counter-Financing Terrorism

As per clause 11.01 (f) of the Framework Agreement between the GCF and FAO, FAO will apply its own fiduciary principles and standards relating to any "know your customer" checks, Anti-money Laundering and Counter-Financing Terrorism (AML/CFT), and financial sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council, which should enable it to comply with the objectives of the Policy on Prohibited Practices and the principles of the AML/CFT Policy.

Low risks of money laundering, terrorist financing, corruption or prohibited practices are foreseen during project implementation. The project team will use national and international consultants/firms contained in its database and roster to ensure they have been working with UN agencies before and I will conduct regular monitoring (every 4 months) of the grant to ensure that the implementation of activities aligns with FAO and GCF policies. New consultants/firms will be assessed before being recruited. Missions in the field will be escorted, when needed, as per FAO's procedures.

FAO is committed to ensuring that its resources are used solely for their intended purposes, that all operations are free from fraud and other corrupt practices, and to being held accountable to donors and beneficiaries for the implementation of its programs. To this end, the Organization has adopted a zero-tolerance policy in respect of fraud and other corrupt practices in all their manifestations. This policy applies, regardless of their location, to all activities and operations of the Organization, whether funded by Regular Programme or Extra-Budgetary Funds; administrative, technical, or operational in nature; or implemented by the Organization and/or an implementing partner, including any government agency. This policy applies to all FAO personnel and all contractual arrangements between the Organization and implementing partners, suppliers or other third parties for administrative, technical, or operational purposes.

### 5.3.5 Whistle blower program

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All FAO personnel are required to report any breach of the Organization's rules and to cooperate with the Organization's oversight functions. An individual who makes a report in good faith has the right to be protected against retaliation.

The FAO Whistleblower Protection Policy follows the guidelines to report allegations of possible wrongdoing in the activities of the project stated in the Administrative Circular 2019/06. Under this policy, the Ethics Officer is responsible for the receipt of complaints of retaliation and for conducting the prima facie review of such complaints, prior to an investigation by the Office of the Inspector-General. A specific FAO Hotline has been established for retaliation reporting ([Retaliation-report@fao.org](mailto:Retaliation-report@fao.org)).

The Whistleblower protection policy was revised in June 2021 and promulgated through AC 2021/10. The policy is available in all FAO languages [here](#).

Retaliation against individuals who have reported concerns or who have cooperated with an authorized oversight activity violates the fundamental obligation of all FAO personnel to uphold the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and to discharge their functions and regulate their conduct in a manner that is in the interests of the Organization. Acts of retaliation will result in disciplinary or administrative action.

### 5.4. Monitoring

FAO will be responsible for monitoring and reporting the results of the proposal, through the indicators (MoV). All reports to GCF will be put forward for consideration by the PSC to ensure that the information is clear and transparent before submission by FAO to GCF. Monitoring activities will be performed by the project coordinator, who will track down progress on activities on a continuous basis. Monitoring of outputs/activities will be done by tracking progress of the grant deliverables against the grant implementation plan. Biweekly team meetings will be set up to discuss progress and address any urgent issue as required. Indeed, monitoring findings will enable rapid project management decisions and adaptive management by involving different members of the project team, to facilitate the identification of diverse solutions, and mobilization of relevant in-house support (e.g., technical teams, procurement teams, etc.).

Reporting arrangements rely both on the periodical reporting to GCF through Progress Reports (see below), and continuous informal monitoring through biweekly meetings, documented through meeting minutes. For daily monitoring activities, project staff (and stakeholders as applicable) will receive on-the-job training by FAO at sub/regional/HQ level. Progress and completion reports preparation is facilitated by extensive guidance (templates, webinars and direct support) developed by FAO in-house.

The aspects that will be monitored and on which FAO focuses to ensure the achievement of results indicators comprehend financial follow-up and control of the Work Plan and the Logical Framework Matrix, including:

1. Activity monitoring (inputs and processes)
2. Results monitoring (MoV)
3. Budget/expenditure
4. Risks and assumption monitoring

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For this purpose, FAO has a set of comprehensive monitoring and follow-up systems for projects and programs (FPMIS), which allow:

- a. Collect field, technical, operational, administrative, and financial information from primary and secondary sources, at the level of results (Outcome, outputs).
- b. Process the data to obtain dashboards and reports with the necessary information for decision making,
- c. Identify delays and/or bottlenecks in the implementation of the project.
- d. Implement preventive/corrective measures in time and minimize risks.

**MoV Reports.** Each MoV will be prepared by the Project Management Unit (PMU) or the consultants/firms responsible for each product, with the continuous quality monitoring from FAO country office. Finally, each product will be validated by the PSC.

**Progress Reports.** Progress reports will be prepared by FAO every year, in coordination with the PSC and the project staff, and will be validated by the NDA. The progress reports will inform, and monitor progress made since project effectiveness date, and the financial report and activities planned for the next reporting period. FAO will submit the reports to the GCF through the GCF PPMS Readiness system.

**Completion Report.** At the end of the implementation period, FAO will prepare and submit to GCF a completion report no later than six months after the end of the implementation period of the approved grant. This comprehensive report will be made available to the public through the NDA. It will summarize the results achieved (objectives, outcomes, outputs), lessons learned, challenges met and areas where results may not have been achieved, also the final financial report. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the proposal's results.

The reports submitted to the GCF will comply with the Framework Agreement and will include reporting against the logical framework included in section 3 and budget included in section 6 of this proposal.

### 5.5. Other relevant information

#### **Selection of Delivery Partner:**

FAO was accredited by the GCF in October 2016, which allows it to develop donor-funded projects of up to USD 250 million in total size (including co-financing). It is also a partner for the implementation of Readiness proposals (preparing countries for the implementation of proposals to the GCF). Since FAO's accreditation, it has supported the development of projects that meet the fund's eligibility criteria in more than 70 countries globally.

FAO works closely with member states to promote the planning and implementation of climate-related policies, which include underrepresented groups, such as vulnerable communities and women. FAO seeks to improve the coherence of policies to ensure that climate action achieves a transformational change, and building climate resilience, reducing emissions, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices to ensure food security and sustainable development in the face of climate change.



## READINESS AND PREPARATORY SUPPORT

At COP22 in November 2016, FAO and the GCF signed a Readiness Framework Agreement (second Amended and Restated Agreement of the Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement entered between GCF and FAO on 25 August 2020). FAO has a strong track record in providing technical assistance related to risk and vulnerability analysis in agricultural sectors, and in facilitating national processes to prioritize adaptation practices and strategies.

FAO extends support in various critical areas of this proposal, including but not limited to AFOLU sector.

FAO's selection as the Delivery Partner for previous Readiness grants stems from its track record of excellence in similar functions, its comparative advantage in the field, and its extensive technical knowledge. This decision is also based on the longstanding and successful collaboration between FAO and the country government through various projects and initiatives.

### **Exit and sustainability strategy:**

The project will build on the already implemented and ongoing projects in the field of climate change, as well as supporting the government initiatives and systems already established. The support provided to the National Designated Authority will ensure long term systematic approach addressing both mitigation and adaptation issues, providing support and guidance for national climate policy implementation.

The ILFMS is established within the national regulation and amendments are planned within the project for the aspects that will need legislation alignment, so by the end of the project all established functions and responsibilities will have legal ground, which ensures their sustainability. Moreover, all involved institutions are already within the fire management system in the country and are already conducting their role within the system and all of them are aware of the lack of capacities and striving to get the support by this project in order to strengthen their capacity. Regarding the software and hardware that will be purchased through the project (for both the fire management system and the climate observational network) all of it will be integrated and interoperable with already existing and functioning systems, which ensure their sustainability

The project activities are all designed to support capacity building of the key national institutions in charge of managing forests to minimize risks and damages from forest fires and to support the fire management system as an institutional and legal set-up in the country, so on a long run this will build national capacities for a sustainable forest management.

### **Grant closure:**

Grant closure will be made in accordance with the Framework Agreement. Tangible and intangible assets procured by FAO will remain the property of FAO for the duration of the readiness grant. The Government will provide safe custody of such equipment, which is entrusted to it prior to the end of the readiness grant. Upon completion of the grant activities, the ultimate destination of all tangible and intangible assets procured under this proposal will be decided by FAO and the NDA.

## READINESS AND PREPARATORY SUPPORT

### **Section 6. Budget, Procurement, HR and Implementation plans:**

#### **6.1. Budget Plan**

Please see attached excel.

#### **6.2. Procurement Plan**

Please see attached excel.

#### **6.3 Human Resources (HR) Plan**

Please see attached excel.

#### **6.4 Implementation Plan**

Please see attached excel.

Readiness Results Management Framework

Objectives

## Objective 1

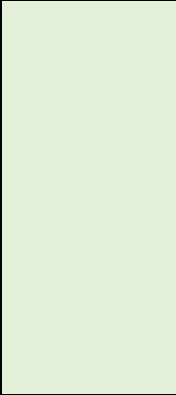
## Capacity Building

## Outcomes

## Outcome 1.3

Relevant country stakeholders (which may include executing entities, civil society organisations and private sector) have established adequate capacity, systems and networks to support the planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities

Outputs	Indicators				Activities
Output 1.3.1  Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities.	Indicator 1.3.1.1  Number of relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded Activities	Target  100	Mov  Developed training curriculum; Training reports prepared.	Notes  10 different stakeholder groups participate in 5 (five) one day trainings with at least 20 participants per training, or 100 participants in total.	Activity 1.3.1.a- Capacity building on climate mitigation potential of forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change
Output 1.3.3  Strengthened Information sharing	Indicator 1.3.3.1  Has an information sharing mechanism been established to provide access and flow of information among climate change stakeholders?	Target  Yes	Mov  Report prepared on conducted analysis, operationalized observation network; report on established information sharing mechanism; campaigning report	Notes  Established mechanism by at least three (3) municipalities for sharing climate information and recommendations for stakeholders' actions towards reducing GHG footprint	<p><b>Activity 1.3.3.a- Strengthen national capacities for climate information monitoring/ observational network and use of climate information for mitigation efforts to meet NDC commitments</b></p> <p><b>Activity 1.3.3.b-Establish mechanism for climate information sharing to guide GHG mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments</b></p>



## Objective 2

## Strategic Frameworks

## Outcomes

## Outcome 2.2

GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF Programming in low-emission investment.

## Outputs

## Output 2.2.5

Studies, action plans, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed

## Indicators

## Indicator

Indicator 2.2.5.1  
  
Number of studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed with the support of Readiness grants

## Target

4

## Mov

Prepared Report on the assessment of the vulnerability of forests, including maps of high risk areas;  
Developed Methodology for Classification of forest fuels;  
Prepared Report on the Upgrade of the Macedonian Forest Fire Information System

## Notes

Prepared Report on the assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks;  
Developed Methodology for Classification of forest fuels;  
Developed maps of areas with a high fire risk level;  
Upgraded Macedonian Forest Fire Information System

## Activities

**Activity 2.2.5.a- Assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks**

**Activity 2.2.5.b- Upgrade modelling capacities for predictability and prevention of forest fires towards increasing the CO2 sequestration capacity of the forests**

## Output 2.2.6

Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed

## Indicator

Indicator 2.2.6.1  
  
Number of sector related strategic framework or action plans developed

## Target

1

## Mov

Prepared report on the analysis with recommendations of the strategic, legal and institutional framework related to LFM  
Adopted National Plan for the protection of forests from fires with Action Plan

## Notes

Developed National Plan for the protection of forests from fires with Action Plan, aiming at reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector

**Activity 2.2.6.a- Assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing strategic, legal and institutional framework to support the national climate mitigation efforts as defined in the ENDCs**

**Activity 2.2.6.b- Development of strategic/planning document which will guide the national**





## Readiness Grant Budget Preparation Guidelines

This file contains three specific planning tools to complete the supplementary information required when submitting a proposal for Readiness Programme support (including for Objective 3. Aptation planning):

- Budget plan and accompany Budget notes
- Procurement and HR plan
- Implementation plan

### The following considerations are important when completing the budget:

1. Before preparing the Readiness and budget, procurement and HR, and implementation plans, please read the full guidance contained in the Readiness Programme Guidebook, specifically **Part IV Sections 5 and 6**
2. You can select the appropriate budget categories from the dropdown list in the budget plan:
3. To insert additional rows, right click on the row number below where you wish to insert the new row and choose INSERT.
4. Additional budget categories may be added by manually typing them on the Budget Category sheet:
5. The Budget Notes sheet should be used to record explanations, further details or cost breakdowns for individual lines

**Budget Categories**  
choose from the drop-down list

Consultant - Individual - International

Consultant - Individual - International

Consultant - Individual - Local

Professional Services – Companies/Firm

IT Equipment

Office Supplies

Travel - International

Travel – Local

Workshop/Training

Budget Categories	
Audio Visual & Printing	
Audit Fee	
Consultant - Individual - International	
Consultant - Individual - Local	
Professional Services – Companies/Firm	
IT Equipment	
Office Supplies	
Travel - International	
Travel – Local	
Workshop/Training	

### Project Management Cost:

Project management costs (PMC) are the direct administrative costs incurred to execute a grant. They should cover only incremental costs incurred due to the GCF contribution. In most cases, these costs are directly related to the support of a dedicated project management unit which manages the day to day execution related activities of the grant.

### General Principles for PMC costs:

1. The percentage of PMC financed by GCF should not be more than the percentage share of the overall budget financed by GCF
2. PMC budget thresholds: Up to 7.5 per cent of total activity budget.
  - > PMC exceeding 7.5 per cent for the readiness (including NAPs) proposals, up to \$ 3 million will require detailed documentation and justification supporting the entire PMC budget.
  - > The PMC should be shown as a separate component in the project budget. A detailed breakdown of PMC should be provided by budget category.
  - > Indicative list of eligible project management costs:
    - > **Project staffing and consultants:** Project manager, Project Assistant, Procurement personnel, Finance personnel & Support/admin. Personnel
    - > **Other direct costs:** Office equipment, Mission related travel cost of the PMU, Project management systems and information technology, Office supplies, Audit cost

### Contingency :

1. Select the appropriate % of Contingency Budget from the dropdown list :
2. Contingency budget for unforeseen costs arising during the grant implementation should not be included in the outcome budget separately.
3. Contingency budget must be used for any unforeseen programme (output level) cost that is unrelated to implementation/service fee.
4. Any use of contingency must be reported to and agreed by the GCF Secretariat in writing in advance provided with justifications that are acceptable to the GCF.
5. If by the end of the grant implementation period, you have not spent Contingency, you may not increase the scope of the project or make any other expenditures using the Contingency.

Total Outcome Budget

Project Management Cost (PMC)

Contingency 0.00

Choose percentage

0

1%

2%

3%

4%

5%



Budget Categories	
5020	Locally Contracted Labour
5013	Consultants - Local
5013	Consultants - International
5014	Contracts
5027	Technical Support Services
5021	Travels - Local
5021	Travels - International
5023	Trainings & workshops
5024	Expendable Procurement
5025	Non-expendable Procurement
5028	GOE

Indicate additional  
budget categories

6.1 Budget Plan

Please add rows for Outcomes, Outputs and Cost Categories as required. Additional budget categories may be added by manually typing them on the Budget Category sheet.

Objectives/Outcomes / Outputs			Detailed Budget (in US\$)						Expenditure Plan									
			Budget Categories <small>choose from the drop-down list</small>	Unit	# of Unit	Unit Cost	Total Budget <small>(per budget category)</small>	Total Budget <small>(per sub-outcome)</small>	Total Budget <small>(per outcome)</small>	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Executing Entity	Budget notes			
Objective 1 : Capacity Building.	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 support the planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities	Output 1.3.1 Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities.	5013 Consultants - Local	Forest fires management/Training programme development specialist	W/Day	25	190.00	4,750.00	93,900.00	219,750.00	4,750.00					A		
			5013 Consultants - Local	Trainer on landscape fire management	W/Day	10	190.00	1,900.00				1,900.00				B		
			5013 Consultants - Local	Climate change/Capacity building specialist	Month	3	2,400.00	7,200.00			3,600.00	3,600.00				C		
			5013 Consultants - Local	Communication and monitoring specialist	Month	2	2,400.00	4,800.00			2,400.00	2,400.00				D		
			5013 Consultants - International	International forest fires management/Training programme development specialist	W/Day	10	450.00	4,500.00			4,500.00					E		
			5013 Consultants - International	International natural resources and climate change specialist	W/Day	15	450.00	6,750.00			3,375.00	3,375.00				F		
			5024 Expendable Procurement	Visibility materials	Lump sum	1	3,000.00	3,000.00			1,500.00	1,500.00				G		
			5021 Travels - International	International expert mission	Trip	1	2,500.00	2,500.00				2,500.00				H		
			5021 Travels - Local	Local travel for trainings	Trip	5	300.00	1,500.00				1,500.00				I		
			5028 GOE	5 trainings on the forest climate mitigation potential and LFM	Workshop	5	3,000.00	15,000.00				15,000.00				J		
			5025 Non-expendable Procurement	Demonstrative kits for trainings	Lump sum	1	25,000.00	25,000.00			25,000.00					K		
			5024 Expendable Procurement	Expandables for the trainings	Lump sum	1	15,000.00	15,000.00			15,000.00					L		
		5028 GOE	GOE	Lump sum	1	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00			1,000.00				M			
		Output 1.3.3 Strengthened Information sharing	5013 Consultants - Local	Climate Information specialist	W/Day	70	190.00	13,300.00			8,866.67	4,433.33				N		
			5013 Consultants - Local	Technical expert/observational network consultant	W/Day	70	190.00	13,300.00			8,866.67	4,433.33				O		
			5013 Consultants - Local	Climate change/Capacity building specialist	Month	2	2,400.00	4,800.00			4,800.00					P		
			5013 Consultants - Local	Communication and monitoring specialist	Month	3	2,400.00	7,200.00				7,200.00				Q		
			5013 Consultants - International	International climate information specialist	W/Day	10	450.00	4,500.00			3,000.00	1,500.00				R		
			5013 Consultants - International	International natural resources and climate chnage specialist	W/Day	20	450.00	9,000.00			3,000.00	6,000.00				S		
			5028 GOE	Training on the observational network	Workshop	1	3,000.00	3,000.00				3,000.00				T		
			5025 Non-expendable Procurement	Observational equipment	Lump sum	1	40,000.00	40,000.00				40,000.00				U		
			5021 Travels - Local	Assessment and installation of equipment	Trip	30	125.00	3,750.00				3,750.00				V		
			5028 GOE	GOE	Lump sum	1	2,000.00	2,000.00			1,000.00	1,000.00				W		
			5014 Contracts	Contract for research, modeling and awareness raising	Lump sum	1	25,000.00	25,000.00			8,333.33	16,666.67				X		
Objective 2 : Strategic Frameworks.	Outcome 2.2 GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF programming in low-emission investment.		Output 2.2.5 Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed	5013 Consultants - Local	Forest fires/risk management specialist	W/Day	20	190.00	3,800.00	143,975.00	610,425.00	3,800.00				Y		
		5013 Consultants - Local		Environment waste management specialist	W/Day	70	190.00	13,300.00	6,650.00			6,650.00				Z		
		5013 Consultants - Local		Environmental Specialist	W/Day	70	190.00	13,300.00	6,650.00			6,650.00				AA		
		5013 Consultants - Local		Forest fuel clasification methodology specialist	W/Day	100	190.00	19,000.00	19,000.00							AB		
		5013 Consultants - Local		Software Developer/System Integrator specialist	W/Day	20	190.00	3,800.00	2,533.33			1,266.67				AC		
		5013 Consultants - Local		Modeling and Simulation Expert	W/Day	20	190.00	3,800.00	2,533.33			1,266.67				AD		
		5013 Consultants - Local		GIS Specialist	W/Day	90	190.00	17,100.00	8,550.00			8,550.00				AE		
		5013 Consultants - Local		Climate change/Capacity building specialist	Month	5	2,400.00	12,000.00	6,000.00			6,000.00				AF		
		5013 Consultants - International		International natural resources and climate chnage specialist	W/Day	20	450.00	9,000.00	4,500.00			4,500.00				AG		
		5021 Travels - Local		Field visits for assesment and mapping	Trip	15	125.00	1,875.00	937.50			937.50				AH		
		5014 Contracts		Update of MKFFIS with data from fire risk assessment and dynamic modules	Lump sum	1	45,000.00	45,000.00				45,000.00				AI		
		5028 GOE		GOE	Lump sum 1	1	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00			1,000.00				AJ		
		Output 2.2.6 Sectorial strategic frameworks or associated plans developed	5013 Consultants - Local	Policy and Legal Expert	W/Day	150	190.00	28,500.00	170,850.00			14,250.00	14,250.00				AK	
			5013 Consultants - Local	Forest fires/risk management specialist	W/Day	150	190.00	28,500.00				9,500.00	19,000.00				AL	
			5013 Consultants - Local	Environmental Specialist	W/Day	130	190.00	24,700.00				12,350.00	12,350.00				AM	
			5013 Consultants - Local	Climate change/Capacity building specialist	Month	8	2,400.00	19,200.00				7,200.00	12,000.00				AN	
			5013 Consultants - Local	Communication and monitoring specialist	Month	3	2,400.00	7,200.00				2,400.00	4,800.00				AO	
			5013 Consultants - International	International forest fires/risk management specialist	W/Day	30	450.00	13,500.00				2,250.00	11,250.00				AP	
			5013 Consultants - International	International natural resources and climate chnage specialist	W/Day	35	450.00	15,750.00				7,875.00	7,875.00				AQ	

			5028 GOE	Two 2-day workshops outside of Skopje (20 participants) on 2.2.6.1	Workshop	2	4,000.00	8,000.00	295,600.00		4,000.00	4,000.00				AR
			5028 GOE	Two 2-day workshops outside of Skopje (20 participants) on 2.2.6.2	Workshop	2	4,000.00	8,000.00				8,000.00				AS
			5024 Expendable Procurement	Visibility materials	Lump sum	1	500.00	500.00				500.00				AT
			5021 Travels - Local	Travel Expenses – Consultant Site Visits	Trip	60	125.00	7,500.00			2,500.00	5,000.00				AU
			5028 GOE	GOE	Lump sum	1	2,000.00	2,000.00			1,000.00	1,000.00				AV
			5021 Travels - International	Three 3 days mission in Skopje (DSAs and plane tickets) - International Forestry Expert	Mission	3	2,500.00	7,500.00			2,500.00	5,000.00				AW
			5013 Consultants - Local	IoT and Technology Specialist	W/Day	120	190.00	22,800.00			15,200.00	7,600.00				AX
			5013 Consultants - Local	Environmental Specialist	W/Day	50	190.00	9,500.00			4,750.00	4,750.00				AY
			5013 Consultants - Local	GIS Specialist	W/Day	90	190.00	17,100.00			8,550.00	8,550.00				AZ
			5013 Consultants - Local	Climate change/Capacity building specialist	Month	3	2,400.00	7,200.00			2,400.00	4,800.00				BA
			5013 Consultants - International	International natural resources and climate change specialist	W/Day	60	450.00	27,000.00			13,500.00	13,500.00				BB
			5028 GOE	One 1-day workshop in Skopje	Workshop	1	3,000.00	3,000.00			3,000.00					BC
			5025 Non-expendable Procurement	Technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires	Lump sum	1	200,000.00	200,000.00				200,000.00				BD
			5021 Travels - Local	Travel Expenses – Consultant Site Visits	Trip	50	150.00	7,500.00			2,500.00	5,000.00				BE
			5028 GOE	GOE	Lump sum	1	1,500.00	1,500.00			750.00	750.00				BF
Total Outcome Budget										830,175.00	277,620.83	552,554.17	-	-	-	
Project Management Cost (PMC) Up to 7.5% of Total Activity Budget			5013 Consultants - Local	Project Manager	Month	24	1,500.00	36,000.00	Actual amount and % of PMC requested: do not change the formula	Maximum PMC that can be requested: do not change the formula	18,000.00	18,000.00				BG
			5013 Consultants - Local	Administration and finance specialist	Month	16	1,000.00	16,000.00			8,000.00	8,000.00				BH
			5024 Expendable Procurement	Office supplies	Lump sum	24	300.00	7,200.00			3,600.00	3,600.00				BI
			5028 GOE	GOE	Lump sum	24	125.00	3,000.00			1,500.00	1,500.00				BJ
											-					
											-					

FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND SECRETARIAT'S USE ONLY		
Breakdown (per budget category)	Total (per budget category)	
5020 Locally Contracted Labour	-	Please note that per FAO accounting, trainings and workshops are mapped against GOE. These expenditures have therefore been mapped to GOE to avoid challenges during implementation
5013 Consultants - Local	360,050.00	
5013 Consultants - International	90,000.00	
5014 Contracts	70,000.00	
5027 Technical Support Services	-	
5021 Travels - Local	22,125.00	
5021 Travels - International	10,000.00	
5023 Trainings & workshops	-	
5024 Expendable Procurement	25,700.00	
5025 Non-expendable Procurement	265,000.00	
5028 GOE	49,500.00	
0	-	
0	-	
0	-	
0	-	
Total Outcome Budget + PMC	892,375.00	

FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND SECRETARIAT'S USE ONLY		
Total Outcome Budget		830,175.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)	7.5% requested	62,200.00
Contingency	1% requested	8,301.75
Sub-Total (Total Outcome Budget + Contingency + PMC)		900,676.75
Delivery Partner Fee (DP) - Up to 8.5% of the Sub-Total		76,557.52
Total Project Budget (Total Activity Budget + Contingency + PMC + DP)	\$	977,235.00

Budget Notes

Please check out the example in the table below, and remove them before including the proposal's entries

Budget Note	Detailed Description
A	Forest fires management/Training programme development specialist will be recruited for 25 days at a daily rate of 190 USD to lead the preparation of a training curriculum on the climate mitigation potential under Activity 1.3.1.a.
B	Trainer on landscape fire management will lead the delivery of the trainings under Activity 1.3.1.a for the stakeholders involved in the integrated landscape fire management. This consultant is planned to be recruited for 10 days at a daily rate of 190 USD.
C	Climate change/Capacity building specialist will be recruited for a total of 21 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD, out of which 3 months under Output 1.3.1, to contribute and streamline the climate aspects into the Activity 1.3.1.a
D	Communication and monitoring specialist will be recruited for 8 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD, out of which 2 months under Output 1.3.1 to lead the organizational, communication and visibility aspects in Activity 1.3.1.a
E	International forest fires management/Training programme development specialist will be recruited for 10 days at daily rate of 450 USD to provide international experience and expertise in the preparation of the training curriculum on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change under Activity 1.3.1.a
F	International natural resources and climate change specialist will be recruited for a total of 150 days at a daily rate 450 USD out of which 15 days under Output 1.3.1 to contribute to the streamlining of the climate change and natural resources aspects into the Activity 1.3.1.a
G	Visibility materials to enhance project recognition during trainings - such as banners, branded folders, notebooks etc. with an estimated budget of 3000 USD taking into account the procurement of similar materials in the country.
H	Cost of 5-day mission of International forest fires management/Training programme development specialist under Activity 1.3.1.a. Cost estimate is made according to the UN established rate for travel, but also depends on which travel modality is used and includes UN DSA rate of 194 USD.
I	Local travel of the consultants for 5 trainings under Activity 1.3.1.a in total amount of 1,500 USD. Cost estimate of 300 USD per travel is made according to the UN established rate for travel but also depending on which travel modality is used envisaging payment of the mileage at UN rate of 0.28 USD per km and the payroll cost
J	Five trainings on the forest climate mitigation potential and LFM under Activity 1.3.1.a, at an estimated amount of USD 3000 per training for approximately 20 participants per training or in total for 100 participants with included costs of the venue, catering, refreshments, audio-visual equipment, and transportation of participants or in total for all trainings 15,000 USD.
K	Kits for demonstration purposes for trainings on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change ( such as IT and video equipment and special equipment, professional grade fire simulators, smoke machines, etc) under Activity 1.3.1.a, at a total estimated amount of 25,000 USD
L	Expendable materials to be used for demonstration purposes for trainings on the climate mitigation potential of the forests and the importance of effective landscape fire management system to combat climate change (such as fire training props, visual aids for training, consumables etc) under Activity 1.3.1.a, at a total estimated amount of 15,000 USD
M	General operating expenses in the lump sum of USD 2,000 related to Output 1.3.1 and Activity 1.3.1.a implementation, to cover the costs for ad-hoc and scheduled simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, ad-hoc written translation, printing, miscellaneous costs etc
N	Climate Information specialist to be recruited for 70 days at a daily rate of 190 USD under Output 1.3.3 to lead the preparation of the Analysis and recommendations for strengthening the observational capacity for regional air quality and GHG and for the national modelling capacity within Activity 1.3.3.a.
O	Technical expert/observational network consultant will be recruited under Output 1.3.3 for 70 days at a daily rate 190 USD to lead the design of the observational network for both regional and local GHG emission estimation and air quality loads within Activity 1.3.3.a
P	Climate change/Capacity building specialist will be recruited for a total of 21 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD out of which 2 months under Output 1.3.3 to contribute and streamline the climate aspects into the analysis of the observational capacity for regional air quality and GHG, as well as existing national modeling capacity and qualified human resources within Activity 1.3.3.a
Q	Communication and monitoring specialist will be recruited for 8 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD out of which 3 months under Output 1.3.3 to oversee the contracted entity for the design and implementation of the awareness-raising activities i.e. campaign for guiding the mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments within Activity 1.3.3.b
R	International climate information specialist will be recruited under Output 1.3.3 for 10 days at a daily rate of 450 USD to provide the expertise in analyzing regional air quality and GHG observational capacity, national modeling, and human resources, and to support designing an observational network for regional and local GHG and air quality estimation within Activity 1.3.3.a
S	International natural resources and climate change specialist will be recruited for a total of 150 days at a daily rate 450 USD out of which 20 days under Output 1.3.3 to contribute with international expertise in the streamlining of the climate change and natural resources aspects into the design of the awareness raising activities for guiding mitigation efforts towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments within Activity 1.3.3.b
T	Training of approximately 10 participants from relevant stakeholders on the functionality and optimization of the observational network for GHG emission and air quality monitoring at estimated amount of USD 3,000 USD with included costs for venue, catering, refreshments, audio-visual equipment, transportation etc within Activity 1.3.3.a

U	Observational equipment for the establishment of the observational network for 3 sub-national and and at least 10 local stations for GHG emission and air quality monitoring at estimated cost of a total of USD 40,000 within Activity 1.3.3.a. <b>The equipment will include: Air quality monitoring unit including PM Monitoring instrument; Data logger/industrial PC, and housing and power supply (3 kits x 5000 USD = 15000 USD); Scientific grade full-featured handheld mass monitor for air quality monitoring including data logging capability and provide connection with external devices through USB and/or RS-485, WiFi and/or Ethernet. (10 kits x 2500 USD = 25000 USD)</b>
V	Local travel of the consultants for the assessment and installation of the observational equipment under Activity 1.3.3.a in total amount of USD 3,750 for 30 travels, the cost estimate of 125 USD per travel is made according to the UN established rate for travel but also depending on which travel modality is used envisaging payment of the mileage costs at UN rate 0.28 USD per km
W	General operating expenses in the lump sum of USD 2,000 related to Output 1.3.3 and Activities 1.3.3.a and 1.3.3.b implementation, to cover the costs for ad-hoc and scheduled simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, ad-hoc written translation, printing, miscellaneous costs etc
X	Contract for research, modeling and awareness raising campaign to guide mitigation efforts and monitor national strides towards the fulfilment of NDC commitments at estimated lump sum of USD 25,000 under Activity 1.3.3.b
Y	Forest fires/risk management specialist will be recruited for 170 days at a daily rate of 190 USD out of which 20 days under Output 2.2.5 to lead the preparation of assessment and maps of areas with a high fire risk level and support the upgrade of the MKFFIS with the respective data under activities 2.2.5.a
Z	Environment waste management specialist will be recruited under Output 2.2.5 for 70 days at a daily rate of 190 USD to provide waste management expertise in the preparation of the assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks, including forest fire risk focusing on mapping illegal dampsites under activity 2.2.5.a
AA	Environmental specialist will be recruited for 250 days at a daily rate of 190 USD out of which 70 days under Output 2.2.5 to contribute and streamline the environmental aspects and ensure compliance with the environmental national regulation in Activity 2.2.5.a
AB	Forest fuel clasification methodology specialist will be recruited for 100 days at a daily rate of 190 USD under Output 2.2.5 to lead the preparation of Methodology for the Classification of forest fuels and risk assessment on the vulnerability of the forest to fires under Activity 2.2.5.a
AC	Software Developer/System Integrator specialist will be recruited for 20 days at a daily rate of 190 USD under Output 2.2.5 to lead the activity and oversee the work of the contracted entity for the upgrade MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data under Activities 2.2.5.a. and 2.2.5.b
AD	Modeling and Simulation expert will be recruited for 20 days at a daily rate of 190 USD under Output 2.2.5 to lead the development of the functionalities and technical design of the upgrade of MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data under Activities 2.2.5.a. and 2.2.5.b
AE	GIS Specialist will be recruited for 180 days at a daily rate of 190 USD, out of which 180 days will be used under Output 2.2.5 to provide GIS expertise for the assessment of the vulnerability of forests to climate risks and developing maps of areas with a high fire risk level for selected 3 pilot areas, under Activities 2.2.5a and 2.2.5.b
AF	Climate change/Capacity building specialist will be recruited for a total of 21 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD out of which 5 months under Output 2.2.5 to contribute and streamline the climate aspects and to oversee the preparation of the assessment and map of areas with a high fire risk level, the upgrade MKFFIS with dynamic module/s for developing models and scenarios based on close to real-time data and the preparation of the methodology for classification of forest fuels under Activities 2.2.5a and 2.2.5.b
AG	International natural resources and climate change specialist will be recruited for a total of 150 days at a daily rate 450 USD out of which 20 days under Output 2.2.5 to contribute with international expertise in the streamlining of the climate change and natural resources aspects into the the preparation of the assessment and preparation of a map of areas with a high fire risk level under Activities 2.2.5a and 2.2.5.b
AH	Local travel of the consultants for the assessment and mapping under Activity 2.2.5.a in total amount of USD 1,875 for 15 travels, cost estimate of 125 USD per travel is made according to the UN established rate for travel but also depending on which travel modality is used envisaging payment of the mileage costs at UN rate 0.28 USD per km
AI	Contract for an upgrade of the MKFFIS with data from fire risk assessment and dynamic modules at an estimated cost of 45,000 USD under Activity 2.2.5.a
AJ	General operating expenses in the lump sum of USD 2,000 related to Output 2.2.5 and Activities 2.2.5 a and 2.2.5 b implementation, to cover the costs for ad-hoc and scheduled simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, ad-hoc written translation, printing and other miscellaneous cost etc
AK	Policy and Legal expert will be recruited for 150 days at a daily rate of 190 USD under Output 2.2.6 to lead the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing strategic, legal and institutional framework related to landscape forest management under Activity 2.2.6.a and provide legal support to the development of the National Plan for the protection of forests from fires with Action Plan, aiming at the reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector under Activity 2.2.6.b
AL	Forest fires/risk management specialist will be recruited for 170 days at a daily rate of 190 USD out of which 150 days under Output 2.2.6 to contribute with the expertise in forest fires to the development of the strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from the forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires in the activity 2.2.6.b
AM	Environmental specialist will be recruited for 250 days at a daily rate of 190 USD out of which 130 days under Output 2.2.6 to contribute and streamline the environmental aspects and ensure compliance with the environmental national regulation in Activities 2.2.6.1 and 2.2.6.b
AN	Climate change/Capacity building specialist will be recruited for a total of 21 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD out of which 8 months under Output 2.2.6 to contribute and streamline the climate aspects into the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management, the development of National Plan for the Protection of Forests from the fires within Activities 2.2.6.a and 2.2.6.b

AO	Communication and monitoring specialist will be recruited for 8 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD out of which 3 months under Output 2.2.6 to lead the organizational, communication and visibility aspects of the activities related to the assessment and analysis of the compliance of existing legal framework related to landscape fires management and the activities related to the development of the strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires within Activities 2.2.6.a and 2.2.6.b
AP	International forest fires/risk management specialist will be recruited under Output 2.2.6 for 30 days at a daily rate of 450 USD to provide international experience and expertise in the development of the strategic/planning document which will guide the national efforts towards reduction of GHG emissions from forestry sector through protection and prevention from forest fires under Activity 2.2.6.b
AQ	International natural resources and climate change specialist will be recruited for a total of 150 days at a daily rate 450 USD out of which 35 days under Output 2.2.6 to contribute with international expertise in the streamlining of the climate change and natural resources aspects into Activities 2.2.6.a and 2.2.6.b
AR	Two 2-day workshops outside of Skopje (20 participants) at estimated amount of 4,000 USD per workshop with included costs for accommodation, venue, catering, refreshments, audio-visual equipment, and transportation for the participants within Activity 2.2.6.a
AS	Two 2-day workshops outside of Skopje (20 participants) at estimated amount of 4,000 USD per workshop with included costs for accommodation, venue, catering, refreshments, audio-visual equipment, and travel for the participants within Activity 2.2.6.b
AT	Visibility materials to enhance project recognition during trainings - such as banners, branded folders, notebooks etc.with an estimated budget of 500 USD for Activities 2.2.6.a and 2.2.6.b
AU	Local travel of the consultants - site visits under Activities 2.2.6.a and 2.2.6.b for 60 travels, at estimated cost of 125 USD per travel according to the UN established rate for travel but also depending on which travel modality is used envisaging payment of the mileage costs at UN rate 0.28 USD per km
AV	General operating expenses in the lump sum of USD 2,000 related to Output 2.2.6 and Activities 2.2.6 a and 2.2.6 b implementation, to cover the costs for ad-hoc and scheduled simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, ad-hoc written translation, printing and miscellaneous costs etc
AW	Three 3-day travel of the International Forest fires/risk management specialist under Activities 2.2.6.a and 2.2.6.b in the estimated amount of USD 2,500 per mission, but the cost also depends on which travel modality is used and includes UN DSA rate of 194 USD.
AX	IoT and Technology Specialist will be recruited under Output 2.2.7 for 120 days at a daily rate of 190 USD to lead the activity and the development of the technical specification of the equipment and technical design of the network for the introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time under Activity 2.2.7.a
AY	Environmental specialist will be recruited for 250 days at a daily rate of 190 USD out of which 50 days under Output 2.2.7 to contribute and streamline the environmental aspects and ensure compliance with the environmental national regulation in Activity 2.2.7.a
AZ	GIS Specialist will be recruited for 180 days at a daily rate of 190 USD, out of which 90 days under Output 2.2.7 to provide GIS expertise to the implementation of Activity 2.2.7.a
BA	Climate change/Capacity building specialist will be recruited for a total of 21 months at a monthly rate of 2,400 USD, out of which 3 months under Output 2.2.7 to contribute and streamline the climate aspects into the Introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time as tool for protecting the forests as the main CO2 absorption capacity in the country within Activity 2.2.7.a
BB	International natural resources and climate change specialist will be recruited for a total of 150 days at a daily rate 450 USD, out of which 60 days under Output 2.2.7 to contribute with international expertise in the streamlining of the climate change and natural resources aspects into the introduction of new technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires in real/close to real-time as a tool for protecting the forests as the main CO2 absorption capacity in the country under Activity 2.2.7.a
BC	One 1-day workshop in Skopje (20 participants) at estimated amount of USD 3,000 USD per workshop with included costs for venue, catering, refreshments, audio-visual equipment, and transportation for the participants within Activity on 2.2.7.a
BD	Procurement of technologies for monitoring and detection of landscape fires at the estimated lump sum of USD 200,000 under Activity 2.2.7.a. The activity will include: -Procurement of 10 solar powered LTE camera kits (10x2500USD= 25000 USD); Procurement of 100 fire sensors (100 x300USD = 30000 USD); Procurement of 3 drones with thermal cameras kits (3x15000USD=45000 USD); Purchase of license to use satellite close-to-real time data, active imagery, medium resolution, with priority tasking uplifts available with a minimum coverage of 60Km2 based on identified hotspot areas in the maps of areas of high fire risk level, under the output 2.2.5 (subscription = 100,000 USD)
BE	Local travel of the consultants - site visits under Activity 2.2.7.a for 50 travels, cost estimate of 150 USD per travel is made according to the UN established rate for travel but also depending on which travel modality is used envisaging payment of the mileage costs at UN rate 0.28 USD per km
BF	General operating expenses in the lump sum of USD 2,000 related to Output 2.2.7 and Activity 2.2.7.a implementation, to cover the costs for ad-hoc and scheduled simultaneous and consecutive interpretation, ad-hoc written translation, printing and miscellaneous costs etc
BG	Project Manager will be recruited for the duration of the project (24 months) on the cost share basis at a daily rate of 350 USD and a total monthly rate of 1,500 USD, to ensure the project to be delivered within the approved scope, cost, and timeline, to oversee and manage the delivery of all project deliverables
BH	Administration and finance specialist will be recruited for 16 months at a monthly rate of 1,000 USD to conduct and ensure compliance with GCF and FAO procedures of all the administrative and financial processes related to the project activities including recruitment and procurement procedures and provide operational support to the Project manager and the international and national consultants.
BI	Office supplies - office materials and consumables required to support daily administrative functions and project activities (paper, folders, staplers, toner, and other general office necessities) to ensure efficient and smooth office operations. The estimated monthly amount is USD 300 or in total for 24 months it is USD 7,200
BJ	General operating expenses at the monthly amount of USD 125 or in total for 24 months - USD 3,000 covering the costs for project operations, including utilities, maintenance of premises, as well as cleaning, security, insurance, and communications services

Note: The daily and monthly rates are estimated and depend on the UN operational exchange rate considering that the national consultants contracts are issued in EUR.





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Readiness Grant Procurement Plan Preparation Guidelines

The following considerations are important when completing the Procurement Plan:

- 1. Before preparing the Readiness and budget, **procurement** and HR, and implementation plans, please read the full guidance contained in the Readiness Programme Guidebook, specifically **Part IV Sections 5 and 6**
- 2. Please start populating information on planned procurement items next to dedicated rows titled 'Planned'. Utilize slicer buttons at the top of the worksheet to easily filter out rows dedicated to planned items.
- 3. Please Specify Item and Item Description under Column C.
- 4. Choose the appropriate Procurement categories from the dropdown list available in the Procurement plan under column D.
- 5. Specify the Estimated cost of the Item under Column E.
- 6. Populate the applicable Procurement Method (e.g., open, limited RFP, ITB, RFQ) in Column G. Ensure alignment with the thresholds (Min-Max monetary value for the indicated procurement method) outlined in Column H, in accordance with the applicable procurement policy.
- 7. In Column I, specify the name of the Entity executing Procurement (DP/EE, etc.).
- 8. Indicate estimated timelines under Columns J and K.
- 9. The Procurement Plan Template provides twenty (20) dedicated rows. To insert additional rows, right-click on the row number below where the new row is desired and select INSERT. When inserting new rows, allocate three rows for each item (Planned, Revised1, Actual) and extend existing dropdown menus or other formulas.
- 10. Utilize Column L, labeled "Remarks," to record explanations, additional details, or any other pertinent information as needed.

Status

Actual

Planned

GoodsNon-Consulting ServicesWorksConsulting Services (Professional)Consulting Services (Individual)

The following considerations are important when completing the Change Request impacting the Procurement Plan:

- 1. Upon approval of the procurement plan by the GCF, the 6.2 Procurement Plan will be locked. Simultaneously, the additional tab 6.2.1 Procurement Plan will be activated for inputs. In this tab, planned items will be automatically populated from the approved procurement plan. Only revisions and actuals can be modified.
- 2. Change requests within 20% threshold of cost reallocation per procurement category (column D) are not subject to GCF pre-approval provided that the procurement process adheres applicable procurement policy AND follows competitive process.
- 3. **Any change** from the approved competitive procurement method to a less competitive method, irrespective of financial value, requires GCF pre-approval. Such changes should be submitted as a change request for clearance.
- 4. **Any change** constituting a new procurement item irrespective of financial value requires GCF pre-approval. Such changes should be submitted as a change request for clearance.
- 5. When revising a procurement item, utilize the designated row labeled "Revised1" and update the relevant columns from the approved procurement plan. After updating, populate Column F with the Current Estimated Cost (latest estimated/actual cost).
- 6. For subsequent revisions, please add dedicated rows i.e. "Revised2" for the second revision, "Revised3" for the third revision, etc and update Column F on Current Estimated cost accordingly.
- 7. To add new procurement items outside the approved procurement plan, allocate three rows for each new item (Planned, Revised 1, Actual). Extend existing drop-down menus or other formulas and input information under **"Revised 1"**
- 8. For ease of reference please also highlight indicated changes in yellow
- 9. When deleting procurement items, employ strikethrough and indicate "0" under Column F for the Current Estimated Cost (latest estimated/actual cost).

Guidelines for Procurement Plan6.2

The following considerations are important when preparing the Annual Progress Report:

- 1. Please attach this procurement plan to your Annual Progress Report to demonstrate implementation progress as well as any changes that were not subject to GCF pre-approval as defined in the section above.

The following considerations are important when preparing the Completion Report:

- 1. Dedicated tab - 6.2.1 Procurement Plan shall illustrate the actual execution of the procurement plan, as a component of the project completion reporting process, in the row titled 'Actual'.
- 2. Upon provision of actual inputs, the consolidated spreadsheet should delineate information pertaining to the project approval stage. Specifically, the spreadsheet should distinguish between what was initially approved (under the row dedicated to "planned" items), what underwent a single revision (Revised1), what underwent two revisions (Revised2), or remain blank if no revisions occurred. Populate fields related to actual execution, costs, and timelines accordingly.

If you are unsure about how to complete the Procurement Plan template, please send your query to: [countries@gcfund.org](mailto:countries@gcfund.org)



to be procured, please list the items, descriptions in relation to the activities in Section 3, estimated cost, procurement method, relevant threshold, and the estimated dates. Please provide a full procurement plan for the entire duration of the implementation period.

**Date:**

*See below, and remove the items before including the proposal's entries. At the proposal submission stage, please populate the rows dedicated to planned items.*

nned

Revised1

(blank)

Item Description	Category	Estimated Cost (US\$)	Procurement Method (e.g. open, limited RFP, ITB, RFQ)	applicable procurement policy (Min-Max monetary value for which indicated procurement	Name of Entity executing Procurement (DP/EE, etc.)	Date of initiating procurement (Tender Issuance)	Estimated contract start date	Remarks
Visibility materials	Goods	\$ 3,500.00	RFQ	1000-5000	DP-FAO	M1	M2	
						M6		
						M1		
Travel costs including terminals for international consultants for 4 missions	Non-Consulting Services	\$ 7,284.00	LTA	NA	DP-FAO	M6	M7	DSA not included
						M1		
						M1		
Forest fires management/Training programme development specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 4,750.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M1	M3	
						M1		
						M6		
Trainer on landscape fire management	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 1,900.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M6	M7	
						M1		
						M2		
Climate change/Capacity building specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 50,400.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M1	M2	
						M8		
						M5		
Communication and monitoring specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 19,200.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M1	M2	
						M6		
						M1		
International forest fires management/Training programme development specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 4,500.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M2	M2	
						M13		
International natural resources and climate change specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 67,500.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M1	M2	
Non-expendable equipment- kits for demonstrative purposes for trainings	Goods	\$ 25,000.00	ITB	Above 25 000	DP-FAO	M6	M9	
Expendable materials to be used for demonstrative purposes for trainings	Goods	\$ 15,000.00	ITB	5000-25000	DP-FAO	M6	M9	
Climate Information specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 13,300.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M1	M2	
Technical expert/observational network consultant	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 13,300.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M2	M3	
International climate information specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$ 4,500.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M2	M3	



Hotel services and audio-visual equipment for workshops and trainings	Non-Consulting Services	\$37,000.00	LTA	NA	DP-FAO	M2	M5	
General Operating Expenses related to the implementation of activities	Non-Consulting Services	\$12,500.00	RFQ	1000-5000	DP-FAO	M8	M10	
Local travel for trainings	Non-Consulting Services	\$1,500.00	Very Low Value	1000-5000	DP-FAO	M8	M10	
Local travel for implementation of activities	Non-Consulting Services	\$20,625.00	Very Low Value	Below 1000	DP-FAO	M12	M14	
International forest fires/risk management specialist	Consulting Services (Individual Consultants)	\$13,500.00	Vacancy announcement / FAO Roster	NA	DP-FAO	M2	M4	
Total \$(USD)		\$889,659.00						

6.3 Human Resources (HR) Plan

For staff to be employed for the duration of the grant.  
Please use examples in the table below, and remove them before indicating proposal's requirements.

Item	Item Description	Estimated Cost (US\$)	Recruitment Method	Thresholds as per applicable policy (if any)	Name of Entity executing recruitment (DP/EE, etc.)	Date of initiating recruitment	Estimated contract start date
Example -Project Manager	Full time project manager	40,000.00	HR process (open advertisement)	\$20,000 - \$50,000			
Example -Project Accountant	Full time project accountant	25,000.00	HR process (Selection from roster)	\$20,000 - \$50,001			
Sub-Total (US\$)		\$ 65,000.00					

