Overview of the Project Preparation Process

Participatory Assessment of land degradation and sustainable land management in grassland and pastoral systems
I. Main steps of GEF LD project design process
   i. Project Overview
   ii. Overview of the GEF Full-Sized Project Preparation Process
   iii. 4 Steps to Project Preparation

II. PPG Approach
   I. PPG Workplan and Timeline
Main steps of GEF LD project design process
Project Overview

Project Objective:
- Strengthen the capacity of local and national stakeholders in grassland and pastoral areas of target countries to assess land degradation and make informed decisions promoting SLM in a way that preserves the diverse ecosystem services grasslands provide.

Project Components:
- Component 1: Define and test a participatory assessment system to assess LD and SLM in grassland and pastoral areas in at least 3 regions.
- Component 2: Design, test and disseminate an integrated and participatory assessment process to estimate the health of grassland/pastoral areas.
- Component 3: Inform national agro-sylvopastoral decision making processes.
- Component 4: Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation.
Project Overview

- Project Identification Form Approval Date:
  - March 18, 2014

- Proposed Duration:
  - 36 months

- GEF Indicative Grant Amount:
  - $2,639,726

- Proposed Co-Financing:
  - $6,000,000
Overview of GEF Full Sized Project Process

1. **Project Identification**
   - Form (PIF) developed and submitted for GEF CEO approval

2. **Council Review (4 weeks)**
   - PIF circulated for GEF SEC, GEF Council, and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel for comments

3. **CEO Endorsement**
   - Request for Project Preparation Grant (PPG) and GEF CEO approval of PPG

4. **Submission of Prodoc and Request for CEO Endorsement to the GEF SEC for comments and approval**
   - PPG Activities: establish baseline, project rationale, additionality, global environmental benefits, co-financing, etc.

5. **Preparation and validation of Project Document (Prodoc), and Request for CEO Endorsement**

Source: Figure adapted from GEF website “What is the GEF Project Cycle.”
Overview of PPG Steps

Four major steps

1. Define the project scope and situation analysis
2. Define the project strategy, the institutional set-up, and the monitoring and evaluation system
3. Engage key stakeholders
4. Develop a financing and co-financing plan
Project Scope

Step 1: Define the Project Scope

- Identify the current and projected risks and challenges posed by LD in the project’s intervention zones
- Identify the gaps to be filled in terms of assessment and monitoring aspects, including for LD, land restoration and SLM
- Identify the existing baseline projects and initiatives
- Identify the legal and policy framework
Step 1: Define the Project Scope – cont’d

- Identify the pilot countries and the intervention sites based on pre-defined selection criteria
- Clarify the additionality related to the project’s proposed outcomes and interventions vis-à-vis the baseline initiatives
- Identify the principle entry points for integrating the project in policies and plans at the national, district, and local levels as well as in complementary projects
PPG Steps

- **Step 2: Define the project strategy, the institutional arrangements and the M&E system**
  - Finalize a strategic results framework, including proposed outcomes, outputs and activities
  - Define an outline for M&E
  - Define the roles and responsibilities of implementing partners and responsible parties
  - Develop an exit strategy
PPG Steps

❖ Step 3: Engage key stakeholders

▪ Mobilize and involve stakeholders who will benefit from project interventions
▪ Define the scope/extent of partnerships
▪ Mobilize national stakeholders through participatory activities:
  • Relevant national ministries and organisations
  • Relevant local and district authorities
  • Civil Society
  • Research Institutions
  • Active projects and programs
PPG Steps

- **Step 4: Develop a financing plan and strategy for co-financing**
  - Facilitate and support negotiations and consultations with Governments on all questions related to the project
  - Explore multi-lateral and bi-lateral opportunities for co-financing
  - Prepare official letters of endorsement and co-financing confirmations
PPG Approach
PPG Workplan

- Major Steps to the PPG Workplan
  - Project Preparation and Inception
    - Adjust initial project proposed logical framework
    - Address GEF Secretariat and STAP comments
    - Organise the inception workshop
    - Finalize and agree on the PPG Workplan
PPG Workplan

Major Steps to the PPG Workplan

Baseline and situation analysis

- IUCN to prepare a study on:
  (i) a literature review of existing assessment and monitoring methods and tools and identification of gaps and challenges
  (ii) a potential process for developing a participatory indicator system
  (iii) linkages between future project components
- Specific report on LD, land restoration and SLM to be prepared for each targeted country (key challenges, barriers, risks, legal and policy framework in place, key entry points, baseline projects)
PPG Workplan

Major Steps to the PPG Workplan

- Preparation of a detailed project concept note, including:
  - synthesis of identified barriers and challenges
  - baseline initiatives
  - additional reasoning
  - proposed project strategy (outcomes, outputs and activities)
  - initial thoughts on institutional set-up and management arrangements
  - Project output-budget

- Validation workshop

- Preparation of full Project Document and Request for CEO Endorsement
## Step 2: Baseline and situation analysis

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity/Deliverable</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End of February</td>
<td>Specific report on LD, land restoration and SLM to be prepared for each targeted country</td>
<td>FAO LTO with support from Baastel</td>
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<td>Early March</td>
<td>Draft report on:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• a literature review of existing assessment and monitoring methods and tools and identification of gaps and challenges</td>
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<td>• a potential process for developing a participatory indicator system</td>
<td>IUCN</td>
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<td>• linkages between future project components</td>
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<td>By mid-March</td>
<td>All country reports are revised and finalized</td>
<td>Baastel and FAO LTO</td>
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<td>By mid-March</td>
<td>Revision of draft IUCN report</td>
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<td>End of April</td>
<td>Final IUCN report</td>
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## PPG Workplan & Timeline

### Steps 3 and 4: Project concept note, validation workshop & Preparation of Draft Prodoc

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<td>Early May</td>
<td>Project Concept Note</td>
<td>Baastel</td>
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<td>By May 15th</td>
<td>Comments on draft concept note</td>
<td>FAO LTO, FAO TCI</td>
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<td>End of May</td>
<td>Validation Workshop and Report</td>
<td>Baastel with coordination support from FAO</td>
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<td>End of July</td>
<td>• Finalization of co-financing agreements</td>
<td>Baastel</td>
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<td>• Preparation of the Draft Prodoc including all Annexes</td>
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<td>• Preparation of the LD Tracking Tool</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Draft detailed budget, including co-financing budget in English</td>
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# PPG Workplan & Timeline

## Step 5: Finalise Prodoc, develop Request for CEO Endorsement and submission to the GEF

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<th>Responsible Party</th>
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<td>Mid-August</td>
<td>Comments on draft Prodoc</td>
<td>FAO LTO</td>
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<td>FAO GEF unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early September</td>
<td>Adjusted Prodoc and development of Request for CEO Endorsement</td>
<td>Baastel</td>
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<td>Mid-September</td>
<td>Submission to GEF / Council distribution</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Final Prodoc</td>
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<td>Final Request for CEO Endorsement</td>
<td>FAO TCI</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Comments response Matrix</td>
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Discussion on overall project design process