



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**

Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ugbaad)

GCP/SOM/083/GCF

Annex 6 Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

This document is intended to be used solely for the purpose of FAO projects disclosure

September 2024

PREFACE

This Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Government of Somalia will be applied to all activities financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for technical and/or financial support for the project, “Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ugbaad)”.

The coordination of the project's activities falls under the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and the Central Project Implementation Unit (CPIU), which operates within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change upon the recommendation of the National Designated Authority (NDA). These bodies are in charge of orchestrating the project's overall activities, with a focus on safeguarding efforts led by the Lead Safeguards Specialist. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will manage the day-to-day execution of certain subcomponents, ensuring adherence to the ESMF and related safeguarding documents. This includes maintaining appropriate records in the project file for GCF's potential review.

This document is considered a living document and could be modified and updated in line with the changing situation or scope of the activities.

Table of Contents

Abbreviations	7
Executive summary	8
1. Introduction	14
1.1. Background	14
1.2. Purpose and scope of the ESMF	16
2. Project description.....	16
2.1. Country context	16
2.2. Project description & overview	17
2.2.1. Components	17
2.2.2. Project objective and expected outcomes.....	19
2.2.3. Project locations	19
3. Environmental and social baseline	21
3.1. Geographic location and topography	21
3.1.1. National level.....	21
3.2. Project area	22
3.2.1. Lower Shabelle.....	23
3.2.1.1. Environmental details	24
3.2.1.2. Social details	25
3.2.2. Middle Shabelle.....	25
3.2.2.1. Environmental details	26
3.2.2.2. Social details	27
3.2.3. Lower Juba	27
3.2.3.1. Environmental details	28
3.2.3.2. Social details	29
3.2.4. Nugaal	29
3.2.4.1. Environmental details	30
3.2.4.2. Social details	31
3.2.5. Togdheer	31
3.2.5.1. Environmental details	32
3.2.5.2. Social details	33
3.2.6. Mudug.....	34
3.2.6.1. Environmental details	35
3.2.6.2. Social details	35
4. Conflict sensitivity assessment	36
4.1 Overview of conflict in Somalia	36
4.2 Land and water-based conflict	37
4.3 Regional conflict analysis and the role of key actors	38

4.4	Recommendations for GCF Proposal	39
5.	Legal and institutional framework	41
5.1.	Key national environment and social legislation, policies, strategies, and plans	41
5.1.1.	Constitution of the Republic of Somalia	41
5.1.2.	The Ninth National Development Plan 2029 – 2024	42
5.1.3.	Nationally Determined Contributions 2024 – 2030.....	42
5.1.4.	National Environmental Policy (2020)	42
5.1.5.	National Adaptation Program of Action on Climate Change (2013).....	43
5.1.6.	National Environmental Management Act (2024)	43
5.1.7.	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Regulations (2024)	44
5.1.8.	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) 2016-2025	44
5.1.9.	National Food Security and Nutrition Policy (2020)	44
5.1.10.	National Fertilizer Policy (2019)	44
5.1.11.	National Pesticide Policy (2019).....	45
5.1.12.	Livestock Sector Development Strategy (2019).....	45
5.1.13.	Agriculture Strategy Plan (2016-2020).....	45
5.1.14.	Draft National Gender Policy of Somalia.....	46
5.1.15.	Somaliland laws and legislations.....	46
5.1.16.	Puntland laws and legislations	46
5.2.	International Conventions signed and ratified by Somalia	47
5.3.	Relevant FAO and GCF policies	48
5.3.1.	GCF Environmental and Social Safeguards	48
5.3.2.	FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards.....	49
5.4.	Summary of objectives and principles for Implementation of the Gender Action Plan	61
6.	Stakeholder engagement.....	62
6.1.	Stakeholder identification and consultation.....	62
6.2.	Stakeholder engagement during project implementation.....	62
6.3.	Disclosure.....	63
6.4.	Grievance Redress Mechanism	63
7.	Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework	71
7.1.	Indigenous Peoples in Somalia	71
7.2.	Laws and policies on Indigenous Peoples	75
7.3.	Indigenous Peoples in the project sites.....	76
7.4.	Potential risk and impacts of the project on minorities and marginalized communities.....	77
7.5.	FPIC Process	78
7.6.	Recommendations for implementation.....	83
7.7.	Grievance process for indigenous communities	84
8.	Expected project impacts.....	86
8.1.	Overview of environmental and social impacts.....	86

8.2.	Breakdown of impact by outcome/output	90
9.	Mitigation measures and approach to enhance positive impacts	101
10.	Principles and procedures to mitigate impacts from implementation	111
10.1.	Introduction:.....	111
10.2.	Screening of sub-activities and sites:.....	111
10.3.	Assessment of environmental and social baseline and impacts.....	112
10.4.	Environmental and social risk management (monitoring and reporting).....	112
11.	Implementation arrangements	113
11.1.	Project implementation arrangements	114
12.	Budget for Environmental and Social Management Framework	115
13.	Appendix	117
	Appendix 1: Non-eligibility list	117
	Appendix 2: A list from Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC).....	119
	Appendix 3: FAO guidance for Pest and Pesticide Management	120
	Appendix 4: ESMF implementation plan.....	124
	Appendix 5: FAO Environmental and Social Screening Checklist	129
	Appendix 6: Terms of Reference for Safeguard Document Preparation.....	164
	Appendix 7: Biodiversity Management Planning Framework	168
	Appendix 8: Labour Management Plan (indicative outline)	179
	Appendix 9: Occupational Health and Safety Plan (indicative Table of Contents).....	182
	Appendix 10: Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP)	184
	Appendix 11: Example of Terms of References for Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist... ..	185
	Appendix 12: Construction Management Plan (Simplified Environmental and Social Management Plan for construction and renovation activities under the project).....	187
	Appendix 13: Summary of FAO's Conflict Sensitive Programming Approach	193
	Appendix 14: Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (indicative outline)	194

List of Figures

Figure 1	Somalia map & project locations	20
Figure 2	Yearly change in total precipitation in Somalia (1981-2010).....	22
Figure 3	Yearly change in the number of days with heavy rainfall conditions ($\geq 20\text{mm/day}$) in Somalia (1981-2010).....	22
Figure 4	Yearly change in the number of dry days ($< 1\text{mm/day}$) in Somalia (1981-2010).....	22
Figure 5	Lower Shabelle Region	24
Figure 6	Middle Shabelle Region	26
Figure 7	Lower Juba Region	28
Figure 8	Nugaal Region	30
Figure 9	Togdheer Region	32

Figure 10 Mudug Region.....	34
Figure 11 FAO GRM referral pathway	69
Figure 12 Representing Somali clans and marginal groups (Minorities such as Bantus/Arabs).....	74
Figure 13 Suggested steps for FPIC process	85
Figure 14 Project implementation arrangement.....	114

List of Tables

Table 1 Project applicable E&S safeguards.....	9
Table 2 Summary of components and activities	18
Table 3 Key characteristics of targeted areas.....	23
Table 4 Performance Standards & corresponding FAO Environmental and Social Safeguard	52
Table 5 Comparison of GCF and FAO's Indigenous Peoples safeguard policies	52
Table 6 FAO environmental and social standards main considerations.....	53
Table 7 Grievance structure.....	66
Table 8 FPIC assessment checklist for Somalia – screening tool	79
Table 9 Summary of main environmental risks related to the value chains	87
Table 10 Summary of main OHS related to the value chains.....	88
Table 11 Summary of community health and safety risks related to the value chains.....	89
Table 12 Breakdown of impact by outcome.....	90
Table 13 Summary of main mitigation measures & monitoring arrangements.....	102
Table 14 Budget summary of ESMF	116

Abbreviations

AFS	Agroforestry systems
APU	Agricultural Production Units
CRA	Climate Resilient Agriculture
EE	Executing Entity
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
FESM	FAO Environmental and Social Management
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
FMS	Federal Member State
FPIC	Free, Prior and informed Consent
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GRM	Grievance redress mechanism
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPP	Indigenous Peoples Plan
MoAI	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
MoECC	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
NDA	National Designated Authorities
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
PA	Protected Area
PLWD	People Living with Disabilities
CPIU	Central Project Implementation Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SEAH	Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Executive summary

1. Situated in the Horn of Africa, Somalia confronts a host of environmental, climate, and socio-economic challenges that deeply impact its agricultural sector. The country's diverse geography ranges from long coastlines to flat plateaus, coastal plains, and highlands, creating a climate spectrum from hot to semi-arid. This variability, combined with climate change, has escalated the incidence of droughts and floods, undermining agricultural productivity and threatening food security. Particularly devastating are the floods, causing widespread livelihood losses and high mortality. The situation is compounded by human-driven activities such as deforestation, leading to biodiversity loss, land-use changes, urban expansion, and poor water management. The regions of Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, Nugaal, Togdheer, Mudug, and Galguduud are notably affected. Future climate scenarios predict rising temperatures and altered rainfall patterns, which could further disrupt agricultural activities, reduce water sources, and elevate pest and disease risks. As agriculture is a cornerstone of food security and economic stability in Somalia, developing sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural methods is critical.
2. The objective of the project in Somalia is to strengthen the resilience of rural communities and ecosystems to climate change and to support the transition from pastoral to agro-pastoral systems. This objective will be pursued through the sustainable management of natural resources, the introduction of climate-resilient agricultural practices, and the enhancement of agricultural value chains. This strategy aims to equip communities to better withstand the adversities of extreme climate events. Focusing on the seven regions identified for their vulnerability and agricultural potential—Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, Nugaal, Togdheer, Mudug, and Galguduud—the project's strategy is structured around three main components: enhancing sustainable use of natural resources, promoting climate-resilient agricultural and livestock practices, and supporting sustainable landscape management that favors resilient agricultural activities. This multifaceted strategy is designed to effectively confront the challenges of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
3. The project complies with crucial environmental and social standards and policies, notably FAO Environmental and Social Management (2022), along with Green Climate Fund (GCF) policies such as the GCF Environmental and Social Policy (2021), the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy (IPP), the GCF Information Disclosure Policy (2016), and the GCF Policy on Prevention and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (SEAH) Policy. In alignment with GCF's (2022) guidelines for stakeholder engagement, a detailed consultation process was implemented at the community level within the project's area, aiming to gather and integrate stakeholder feedback into this document and related project materials.
4. FAO Framework for Environmental and Social Management (FESM), updating the Environmental and Social Management Guidelines introduced in 2015, outlines the environmental and social performance expectations for FAO projects and programs. It incorporates key principles of a human rights-based approach, focusing on protecting individuals and the environment from potential adverse effects associated with FAO initiatives. The framework prioritizes engaging stakeholders in all aspects of project and program activities and establishing accessible mechanisms for voicing concerns.
5. With project's activities fully detailed within this ESMF, FAO has implemented a framework approach for environmental and social management. This Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) encompasses several key areas: (i) identification of potential environmental and social impacts; (ii) recommendation of mitigation measures; (iii) establishment of screening criteria for the selection of sub-activities; (iv) specification of required instruments for managing sub-activities during implementation; and (v) layout of institutional structures, grievance redress mechanisms (GRM), and strategies for monitoring, reporting, and compliance with environmental and social safeguards. The ESMF ensures comprehensive coverage of all project activities.
6. To adhere to the GCF's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy, this ESMF has been formulated to guide the project. This ESMF, built on a mitigation hierarchy, includes strategies to avoid, minimize, and where necessary, compensate for adverse environmental and social impacts. Prepared by FAO, this ESMF aims to: (i) catalogue potential yet generic negative impacts; (ii) propose mitigation strategies; (iii) define screening criteria for sub-activities; (iv) identify the necessary instruments for each

sub-activity during implementation; and (v) establish institutional frameworks, GRM, and protocols for monitoring, reporting, and compliance. It emphasizes strengthening the Gender Analysis with site-level consultations as part of the social baseline study, ensuring that all project components undergo thorough screening and assessment for appropriate management measures before implementation.

7. **Risk Categorization:** The project is expected to primarily deliver significant environmental and social benefits, including enhancing the resilience of rural communities and ecosystems to climate change through sustainable resource management, climate-resilient agricultural practices, and value chain development. The project is expected not to cause a fall of the water table, on the contrary due to planned activities increase in groundwater recharge and improve conditions for land use is expected. Nonetheless, it acknowledges the potential for adverse environmental and social impacts that will require careful management and monitoring.
8. FAO Project Environmental and Social Screening Checklist has been developed, leading to the classification of the project as a **Moderate Risk Project (Category B)**¹. This categorization indicates that:
 - The project has potential adverse environmental and social impacts that necessitate the formulation of environmental and social management plans. According to the descriptions in Chapter 6, it is anticipated that the project will activate various Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies, specifically ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, ESS5, ESS6, ESS7, and ESS8 (refer to Table 1).
 - The potential impacts are mainly determined to the confinement of the project geographic footprint, are neither without precedent in the area nor irreversible, however due to the presence of other projects (such as JOSP, TRANSFORM, etc.) in the project area, there may be cumulative impacts.
 - The potential adverse impacts can be effectively managed by adhering to the FAO's guidelines and the World Bank Group's Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines (EHS Guidelines)².
9. The ESMF will be implemented through 6 regional Environment and Social Management Plans (ESMP). The regional ESMPs will be developed during the inception phase of the project. Each ESMP will have contextual details/evidence base of environmental and social aspects of the respective region, the associated risks and mitigation actions, timeline for implementation, the lead role and support role of implementing partners and associated financial/technical requirements. The FAO standard format will be used.

Table 1 Project applicable E&S safeguards

Safeguard policy	Triggered	Safeguard instruments & mitigation measures
ESS1: Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ List of non-eligible activities (Appendix 1 of ESMF) ▪ Biodiversity Management Planning Framework (Appendix 7)/ Biodiversity Management Plan <p>The project aims at sustainable intensification. No land conversion will take place (expansion of agriculture frontier, clearing of native forest or similar activities, increases in areas under cultivation within protected areas (PA)). The project will work mainly with local/native breeds and species sourced from local or national markets where available. All genetic material for plants and animal (seedling/planting material, species, breeds) should be free from pests and diseases.</p>

¹ FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2015. Environmental and Social Management Guidelines. Rome, Italy.

² <https://www.ifc.org/content/dam/ifc/doc/2023/ifc-general-ehs-guidelines.pdf>

<p>ESS2: Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ Pest Management Plan (see Appendix 3 for the guidance) ▪ Waste Management Plan (see Appendix 10) ▪ Construction management plan (Appendix 12) (rehabilitation/renovation) <p>Solid or water waste, which will be generated during the infrastructure construction works period and not the whole project timespan, will be managed by Waste Management Plan and Construction Management Plan. The rehabilitation activities will be designed in a way to ensure minimum permanent soil damage of the productive soil.</p> <p>Practices and technologies promoted by the project aims at improving efficiency in the use of natural resources (water, land, soil, energy) through inclusive and participatory approach of women, man, youth, elders, PLWD and Indigenous Peoples. The project promotes the use of local or native breeds and species (for livestock, poultry and planting/seedling material), IPM to reduce use and dependency of agrochemicals (Refer to Appendix 3 of ESMF) and integrates sustainable soil and water management.</p> <p>Implementing agro-ecological approach at landscape level will ensure the sustainable management of natural resources, avoiding pollution and degradation of the environment, protecting human and animal health, properly manage water, soil and biodiversity. Additionally there will be no pesticide procurement under the project, and highly hazardous pesticides (HHP) will not be used in the project areas.</p>
<p>ESS3: Climate change and disaster risk reduction</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-Eligible activities (Appendix 1) <p>The Project already incorporates findings from the climate risk assessment and will address risks related to climate change and disaster by enhancing adaptive capacity of communities, rehabilitating ecosystems and irrigation infrastructure and improving access to climate information services</p> <p>In order to avoid dependencies on the external resources in the post project situation, the project will internalize the capacities including sustainability planning that enable the beneficiaries to sustain and manage the project investment self-reliantly.</p>
<p>ESS4: Decent work</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ Labour Management Plan (Appendix 8) ▪ Occupational Health and Safety Plan (Appendix 9) ▪ Construction management plan (rehabilitation/renovation) <p>The project promotes compliance with national and international employment and labor regulations and guidelines. All employment relationships will be based on the principle of equal opportunity and fair treatment and will not discriminate, particularly as women, youth and minorities are targeted. Training and sensitization campaigns will be carried for farmers/FOs on Occupational, Health, and Safety (OHS) child labour and appropriate work for youth. The project supports knowledge generation and will generate youth/women opportunities in selected value chains and support rural youth/women/PLWD access to information and productive resources. The project will ensure that children under aged are not employed, adequate and verifiable mechanisms for age verification in recruitment procedures will be set. Project will conduct sensitization training on safe, decent rural employment and age-appropriate work, given that youth often assist with the farming work.</p> <p>The project will carry out rehabilitation/renovation activities including restoring Sabuun Barrage and Supply canal in Jowhar, upgrade secondary and tertiary canals to resilience standards and deploy water-saving technologies. The project will also support the rehabilitation of</p>

		<p>market infrastructures, including rural roads, cattle corridors to ensure that access is un-interrupted even during climate extreme. This will be done through FAO procurement of contractors, nevertheless the beneficiaries will be involved in the overall decision making process regarding planning, execution, monitoring and subsequent O&M.</p>
ESS5: Community health, safety, and security	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ Zero tolerance of SEAH ▪ Labour Management Plan (Appendix 8) ▪ Occupational Health and Safety Plan (Appendix 9) <p>The project adopts a Zero tolerance of SEAH and GBV, all project stakeholders will participate on sensitization campaigns and training on SEAH & GBV. Additional risks for the community are related to exposure of waterborne diseases, vector-borne diseases, zoonotic diseases, food-borne diseases from construction and agro-facilities. The project activities will follow recommendation established by industry-specific best management practices for management of risks related to community health and safety. Design, construction, and operation will follow national legal requirements and good international practice, ensure inclusive engagement to avoid increasing inequalities.</p>
ESS6: Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ ESMP will include measures to facilitate social inclusion and enhance gender equality, and safeguard against SEAH. ▪ Gender Action Plan (GAP: Annex 8 of FP) ▪ Zero tolerance of SEAH <p>Project design and implementation incorporates gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence as an integrated element, a Gender Analysis and Action Plan, with specific gender-targeted activities and indicators was developed (Annex 8). The project's GRM will be accessible for all project-related complaints, including SEAH-specific complaints. The GRM will be survivor-centered and gender responsive, and will have specific procedures for SEAH, including confidential reporting and safe and ethical documenting.</p>
ESS7: Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESIA/ESMF ▪ Project will employ Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests and incorporate land tenure assessment as part of the landscape/watershed strategies. <p>The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not be used for land acquisition. No set aside land or additional conservation areas will be established as part of the project. Reforestation/rehabilitation areas will take place mainly on public or community land (executed by region administrations) or interventions on private land (executed by communities with funding from the project) and will focus on areas where such interventions can facilitate or leverage improved productivity through ecosystem services. Proposed activities will mostly imply the involvement of districts on a purely voluntary and demand-driven basis.</p>
ESS8: Indigenous Peoples	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF and Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), and subsequent ESMP and Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) ▪ FPIC will be carried out before any project activity is implemented, and it will consider the active participation of Indigenous Peoples living in the project area, as well as those Indigenous Peoples (nomadic pastors and hunter gatherers that depend on the resources of the project area of influence). <p>The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not be used for land acquisition or resources. Some of the project</p>

		activities could affect IPs and their livelihood (e.g., loss of access to grazing land, interference with pastoralist livelihood), if these groups are excluded from planning and decision-making processes (e.g. indigenous groups are represented in project main committees). Any involuntary restrictions on land use and access to natural resources is subject to traditional ownership or under customary use and will be addressed by ensuring IPs rights are respected and that they are involved in the development, implementation, and monitoring of the project and in the decision- making processes. The project will use a participatory approach to design the Landscape Management Plan making sure to include all social categories. Furthermore, the same categories will be targeted for Value Chain Development and Agriculture and Livestock support
ESS9: Cultural heritage	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-Eligible activities (Appendix 1) <p>The project will not invest in areas identified as cultural heritage sites. These include shrines, village squares, etc. The region specific ESMPs (regional ESMPs for all six project regions will be developed at the project inception level) will ensure that the scoping and screening exercises caption these kinds of issues.</p>

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

10. **Positive impact:** The project is designed to strengthen the resilience of rural communities and ecosystems across seven strategically chosen regions in Somalia, enhancing their ability to cope with climate change through the adoption of sustainable resource management, the implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices, and the strengthening of agricultural value chains. Tailored to be inclusive, the project incorporates gender and socially responsive planning strategies that address the needs of marginalized groups, alongside a comprehensive climate risk assessment. Gender and socially aware extension services aim to empower smallholder farmers of both genders, furnishing them with the skills and resources needed to navigate climate-related challenges, enhance environmental sustainability, and improve economic conditions. The project further promises improved access to climate information services, the preservation of biodiversity, and enhanced service delivery by extension workers to all community members, including women, youth, and persons living with disabilities. Innovative adaptation measures, such as the development and rehabilitation of water conservation infrastructures and efficient irrigation systems, are expected to increase agricultural yields, improve livelihoods, and contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by integrating renewable energy solutions. Integral to the project is a Gender Action Plan that ensures active participation of women in all activities, empowering them with vital agricultural knowledge and ongoing training to address sexual exploitation, abuse, harassment, and gender-based violence, encapsulating the project's commitment to fostering a positive impact across all community sectors.

11. **Negative impacts:** Negative impact: As the project involve rehabilitation/renovations (ref. Activity 2.1.2 and activity 2.3.4), these activities trigger ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, ESS5, ESS6 and ESS8 from low risk to moderate risk levels. Beside these activities the project may result in minor, mitigatable impacts anticipated during its implementation and operation phases. Social concerns include the potential exclusion of landless farmers, tenants, ethnic minorities, and vulnerable groups, possibly leading to escalated land tenure conflicts and increased land values from improved agricultural productivity. There's a risk of augmented gender-based violence and harassment within key value chains and the potential for youth and children to undertake age-inappropriate farm work without adequate oversight. The social concerns also include the influx of the works and labor practices. Environmentally, heightened agricultural production units (APU) could lead to additional environmental waste, soil contamination from improperly decomposed fertilizers, and an unintended rise in pesticide use. Risks also emerge from the provision of seeds and other genetic resources, even those adapted or certified for the region, and health and safety hazards associated with minor construction or rehabilitation of agro-processing facilities. These risks, mainly linked to the first two components of the project, are deemed low-to-moderate, localized, temporary, and manageable with mitigation strategies and adherence to international best practices.

12. Project sub-activities will be subject to project screening process (using FAO Screening checklist – Appendix I) to identify potential E&S risks and impacts. Depending on the classification and level of risk identified, ESMPs will then be prepared at implementation stage. Given that the project is considered medium risk overall, it is expected that only some of the project activities will require ESMPs following the screening phase. Additionally, all project activities will have to ensure compliance with Somalia's environmental and social regulation and obtain necessary construction and or operation permits and licenses.
13. **Institutional arrangements:** The adherence to this ESMF will be overseen by a National Safeguards Specialist appointed within the Central Project I Unit (CPIU). This specialist will collaborate closely with the Social Safeguard Specialist and Gender Specialist to ensure comprehensive compliance. Additionally, all Executing Entities (EEs) and Implementing Partners will participate in capacity-building training focused on FAO's environmental and social safeguards and will appoint specific contact individuals for issues related to environmental and social concerns.
14. **Sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH):** The project will adopt a strict policy of zero tolerance towards SEAH, integrating SEAH risk mitigation measures into the project's ESMF and ESMP, following the guidelines of the updated GCF Environmental and Social Policy (2021) and the FESM. Efforts will be made to raise awareness about gender sensitivity, providing training on gender equality, social inclusion, and SEAH for both project staff and beneficiaries. Furthermore, a code of conduct specific to the project's implementation will be established. In conjunction with the development of the ESMP, specific SEAH procedures will be incorporated into the project's GRM to ensure it supports survivors in a manner that is both gender-sensitive and confidential. This approach aims to facilitate access to appropriate services and offer redress to anyone impacted by SEAH.
15. **Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM):** The CPIU will oversee the grievance and redress mechanism. Grievances related to SEAH and GBV within the project will be addressed using the existing FAO GRM system. This system will be enhanced to incorporate SEAH procedures, ensuring they are inclusive, centered on the survivor, and responsive to gender issues, and will be supported by GBV referral pathways.
16. Engaging with stakeholders will be a fundamental, ongoing aspect of the project from start to finish. The project will feature regular events designed to involve stakeholders actively. Such engagement aims to promote transparency, ensure inclusiveness, and uphold the freedom of speech across the various contexts of the project's regional and provincial settings. Additionally, stakeholder participation will be integral to the project's monitoring and evaluation, as well as to the implementation of the ESMF and GAP.
17. **Human resources:** For the CPIU project, a specialized E&S team will be assembled to assist with its execution. This team will include an Environmental and Social Safeguard Specialist and a Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist, both of whom will lend their expertise in the development and implementation of the ESMF, GAP, ESIA/ESMPs and other related plans during the initial phase of project implementation. Additionally, should the need arise, the project is prepared to enlist an International ESS Specialist and/or Gender and Social Inclusion expert to offer technical advice or assistance to the national specialists. Such coordination will occur through the CPIU and align with the project's implementation schedule.
18. **Budget:** The overall ESMF budget is USD 1.9 million for a blend of Environmental and Social safeguard experts, travel, and other costs related to GRM. Gender activities in the Gender Action Plan are included in the project activities budget. ESS compliance and GAP monitoring are also included in the baseline, mid and end-line surveys, project Monitoring and Evaluation and Management Information System (MIS) for which separate budget are included.

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

19. Somalia, one of the country's most susceptible to climate change impacts, is prominently placed on the Long-Term Climate Risk Index, emphasizing its frequent exposure to catastrophic weather events. This heightened vulnerability is due to its geographical location, which predisposes the majority of its territory and population to an increased risk of disaster. The country endures more intense tropical storms, heavy rainfall, floods, and El Niño-induced droughts, which severely affect its complex agroecological zones. Consequently, Somalia's rural and agricultural systems are under significant threat from climate risks, resulting in considerable losses and damage due to extreme weather events.
20. Compounding these environmental challenges, Somalia's position as the world's second most fragile state brings additional socioeconomic burdens. The country faces a high unemployment rate, rapid population growth, and a pronounced vulnerability to natural disasters and conflict. These issues collectively exacerbate the situation, leading to widespread food insecurity and underscoring the urgent need for concerted efforts to bolster resilience against both the socio-economic and environmental adversities Somalia confronts.
21. Future climate impact analyses on agriculture and farming communities in Somalia paint a concerning picture, with predictions indicating an escalation in exposure to increased temperatures across the country. The northern, central, and southern regions are expected to face drier dry seasons and wetter rainy seasons, exacerbating the challenges in drought-prone areas with anticipated decreases in precipitation. While climate change predictions for droughts and floods carry uncertainties, they suggest a potential increase in the intensity of these events rather than their frequency, posing significant risks to the agricultural sectors and livelihoods dependent on them.
22. In response to these challenges, a comprehensive baseline study accompanied by extensive stakeholder consultations was conducted to explore a variety of climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) options for the agricultural systems most susceptible to climate change impacts. The identification of crop- and system-specific CRA strategies was informed by successful examples and models, highlighting the importance of investing in integrated farm systems and the adoption of climate-resilient practices tailored to local conditions. These strategies aim to equip the most vulnerable farming communities with the tools and knowledge necessary to navigate the increasing threats posed by climate variability and change.
23. The necessity for a paradigm shift in agricultural production is clear, moving from a state of extreme vulnerability, characterized by significant damages and losses from extreme weather events and the low adaptive capacity of exposed farmers to a new model of resilience. This shift requires stakeholders—including government, the private sector, and farming communities—to gain a comprehensive understanding of both short-term and long-term climate change risks. By engaging in a continuous adaptation process, these stakeholders can collaboratively work towards mitigating the impacts of evolving climate risks, thereby securing the future of agricultural livelihoods in Somalia against the backdrop of an uncertain climate future.
24. The objective of this project, "***Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ubgaad)***" is to address these issues through three core components: (i) Increase sustainable natural productive capital for climate change resilience; (ii) promotion of climate resilient livelihoods; and (iii) enabling conducive environment for sustainable landscape management and climate resilient agriculture. Targeting direct impacts, the initiative aims to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change through comprehensive ecosystem restoration, sustainable agricultural advancement, and value chain development, thus enhancing resilience among Somalia's vulnerable populations.
25. In terms of direct actions in support of farmers, project activities will be delivered in (i) Southwest: Lower Shabelle region with Qoryooley, Kurtunwaarey, Afgooye and Barawe districts, (ii) Hirshabelle: Middle Shabelle region with Adale district, (iii) Jubaland: Lower Juba region with Kismayo district, and other four regions where the agro-pastoral system prevails; (iv) Puntland: Nugal region with Eyl and Garowe districts, (v) Somaliland: Todgheer region with Odweyne district, (vi) Galmudug: Mudug region with

Hobyo district. These regions that have been pre-identified based on the climate risk analysis³ which considered climate hazard, exposure and vulnerability, and the agro-ecological zones in Somalia. The project's components will help create and support systemic adaptation mechanisms for the agriculture sector through the following:

- (i) Identifying homogenous land units across different agro-ecological zones in each site to foster the development of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) embedded in the community-based landscape management plans. Capacity building efforts will be directed at grassroots organizations managing these zones, focusing on governance, financial, and organizational management, while ensuring inclusion of women and youth. Assistance will be provided to community organizations and producers for drafting inclusive landscape management plans that employ sustainable soil and land management practices with active participation from diverse community groups. The project will support the implementation of these plans through initiatives aimed at grassland improvement, the construction of soil and land management infrastructure, and the development of agroforestry systems, all designed to combat climate change challenges. Further efforts include strengthening farmers' associations and water committees for enhanced water management, rehabilitating irrigation schemes, and investing in water-saving technologies to address drought impacts, alongside establishing water accounting and auditing to improve water use forecasting and management.
 - (ii) Enhancing the production capabilities of communities through Farmer Field School (FFS) and Agropastoral Field School (APFS) in collaboration with research centers, and facilitating the multiplication of improved seeds. Further efforts involve nurturing tree seedling production for reforestation and bolstering fodder production to support livestock resilience against drought impacts. Capacity building for cooperatives, community associations, and SMEs will focus on developing technical and business skills necessary for climate-resilient agricultural practices and value chain enhancement. Infrastructure improvements, such as rehabilitating rural roads and establishing markets, aim to improve access to markets and support climate-resilient livelihoods. Additionally, the project will offer technical assistance to financial institutions to create innovative financial products for agricultural value chains and promote financial inclusion through the Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) approach, linking savings groups to microfinance institutions for greater access to financial resources; and
 - (iii) Creating a conducive environment for sustainable landscape management and climate-resilient agriculture through a series of targeted activities. These include assessing and updating enforcement modalities and implementation plans for climate change adaptation, as well as identifying government priorities for mitigating and adapting to climate change within the NDC framework. Efforts to mainstream landscape management planning will involve multi-institutional collaboration to develop policies and manuals specific to Somalia's needs, alongside strategies for managing *Prosopis* invasions through national strategies and advanced mapping techniques. The project will also introduce climate-proof infrastructure standards to strengthen resilience against extreme weather and enhance coordination mechanisms across government levels to streamline climate action efforts. Additionally, it aims to develop a comprehensive climate information platform to assist agricultural decision-making, and reinforce existing early warning systems for better management of climate risks.
26. These regions have been selected in close consultation with the government considering the government's priority areas that have been newly liberated from Al-Shabaab in Hirshabelle, Galmudug, Jubaland and South West states where no major investment project has been implemented and there are huge needs of rural communities to cope with climate change.
27. The project will indirectly benefit directly 1.1 million of beneficiaries residing in areas highly susceptible to climate risks. This enhancement, coupled with strengthened institutional capacity, aims to cultivate an environment conducive to the widespread adoption of CRA techniques.

³ The climate risk analysis has been done by using FAO Climate Risk Toolbox – CRTB.

28. Moreover, the initiative intends to support farmers who are particularly vulnerable, including women and indigenous communities facing marginalization, by facilitating their access to essential technical and financial services. This access is designed to help them surmount challenges associated with inputs and market participation. Through the strategic combination of agricultural practices with value chain enhancements, financial solutions, risk management tools, and the potential application of innovative mobile technologies, the project seeks to create a holistic support network for these communities.

1.2. Purpose and scope of the ESMF

29. This Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) outlines a comprehensive strategy for identifying, avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating adverse environmental and social risks and impacts associated with this project and its sub-projects. It emphasizes the importance of screening and evaluating potential adverse impacts, ensuring the implementation of suitable management measures before project initiation. This ESMF is crafted to align with the environmental and social safeguard standards and policies of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), incorporating key principles such as Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) where relevant.
30. This framework will serve as a guide for FAO and all involved stakeholders in Somalia, facilitating the determination of the necessary level of environmental and social assessment for the project. This includes assessing potential impacts and developing required mitigation strategies.
31. In more detail, the goals of the ESMF are to:
- 1) Identify major potential environmental and social impacts arising from project activities.
 - 2) Define clear procedures and methodologies for the environmental and social screening, planning, review, approval, and implementation of sub-projects.
 - 3) Specify the roles and responsibilities, along with reporting procedures, for addressing and monitoring environmental and social concerns in sub-projects.
 - 4) Assess the training, capacity building, and technical support required to effectively apply the ESMF and subsequent Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).
 - 5) Outline the budget needed for implementing ESMF directives, including further environmental and social evaluations, monitoring, and management efforts.
 - 6) Provide valuable resources and information for the practical application of the ESMF.
32. This framework is designed to create a framework, ensuring that every component and activity within the project adheres to the highest levels of environmental and social responsibility.

2. Project description

2.1. Country context

33. Situated in the Horn of Africa, Somalia is distinguished by its vast coastline, the longest in Africa, which stretches along the Red Sea, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and the Indian Ocean, covering an area of 637,657 square kilometres. Its landscape predominantly features flat plateaus, coastal plains, and a few highlands, under a climate that oscillates between hot and arid to semi-arid conditions. These geographical and climatic characteristics contribute to significant environmental, climate, and socio-economic challenges, particularly affecting the agricultural sector. The variability in climate, compounded by the adverse effects of climate change, has led to increased instances of droughts and floods, severely impacting agricultural productivity and food security throughout the nation.
34. Regions such as Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, Nugaal, Togdheer, and Mudug are especially vulnerable to these climate-induced challenges. Predictions indicate a continued rise in temperatures and changes in rainfall patterns, likely resulting in extended drought periods and

unpredictable rainfall. These climatic shifts threaten agricultural schedules, reduce water availability for irrigation, and could lead to increased pest and disease outbreaks, further straining Somalia's agricultural infrastructure. Additionally, socio-economic issues, including limited access to modern technologies, infrastructure deficits, and restricted financial services, exacerbate the sector's vulnerability to climate variability.

35. The heightened vulnerability of these specific regions underscores the uneven impact of climate change across Somalia's diverse landscape, emphasizing the need for localized strategies to mitigate environmental risks. These areas, crucial for the nation's food supply and economic stability, face the harshest consequences of climate change, from altered crop growing seasons to reduced water sources and increased pest invasions. This disparity highlights the importance of nuanced approaches tailored to the geographic and climatic diversity of Somalia, aiming to protect agricultural livelihoods and ensure food security amid a complex backdrop of environmental and socio-economic challenges.

2.2. Project description & overview

2.2.1. Components

36. The "*Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ugbaad)*" project is structured around three main components (see Table 2 for summary of components and activities), which are:
37. Component 1: This component aims to increase sustainable natural productive capital for climate change resilience, focusing on enhancing the resilience of agro-pastoral systems through sustainable landscape management and improved irrigation water supply. By developing comprehensive landscape management plans and securing alternative water sources, it seeks to mitigate the adverse effects of climate variability on agriculture. The component will strengthen the capacity of community organizations in managing natural resources, while also addressing land degradation and promoting water-saving technologies. The activities under this component are designed to restore the productive landscapes with dependable livelihoods, this will be done through strengthening local level planning. While underscoring the criticality of water for the production system, the project adopts sub-watershed as a planning and management unit.
38. Component 2: This component aims to promote climate resilient livelihoods by focusing on enhancing the climate resilience of agriculture and livestock production to support community livelihoods and mitigate the impacts of climate shocks. It seeks to increase farmers' and herders' assets and income, thereby boosting their adaptive capacity to better withstand droughts and floods. Through capacity building for climate-resilient agricultural practices, improving access to climate-resilient inputs, and developing climate-resilient value chains, the project will strengthen community resilience, promote sustainable agricultural and livestock production, and contribute to sustainable socio-economic development. The component also includes the rehabilitation/renovation work to increase to water resources and climate-smart irrigation infrastructure restoration of Sabuun barrage and upgrade secondary and tertiary canals to resilience standards added with water-saving technologies. Additionally, the project will increase all season access (150 km of rural roads) to market (building 10 intermediary markets) for smallholder producers, cooperatives and farmer groups. The project will support the rehabilitation of market infrastructures, including rural roads, cattle corridors to ensure that access is un-interrupted even during climate extremes.
39. Component 3: This component aims to enable a conducive environment for sustainable landscape management and climate-resilient agriculture by fostering policy design, enhancing coordination across various levels, and improving access to climate information services. It will leverage existing initiatives, such as the GCF funded Readiness project by UNDP, to streamline efforts across federal and state levels, addressing gaps in policy design and enforcement. The initiative intends to strengthen the enforcement of sustainable landscape management policies, enhance the capacity for climate finance mobilization, and develop comprehensive landscape management plans. Additionally, it seeks to bolster coordination mechanisms, manage invasive species like Prosopis, establish climate-proof infrastructure standards, and enhance climate information platforms and services, facilitating effective adaptation to climate change.

Table 2 Summary of components and activities

Outcome 1 - Restored landscapes are resilient and sustainably managed	
Output 1.1 Improved participatory landscape and natural resources management and governance are established at watershed and village levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 1.1.1 Strengthen the information base for climate-informed local land use planning ▪ Activity 1.1.2 Develop climate-informed inclusive landscape management plans
Output 1.2 Agricultural and Agropastoral Landscapes are restored and sustainably managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 1.2.1 Conduct landscape restoration through local landscape management committees and community-based associations
Outcome 2 Local livelihoods are resilient to climate change.	
Output 2.1 Resilient water supply is secured and sustainably managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 2.1.1 Strengthen water management capacity at State and local level ▪ Activity 2.1.2 Increase access to water resources and climate-smart irrigation infrastructure
Output 2.2 Local communities practice locally specific Climate Resilient Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 2.2.1 Disseminate CRA practices to farmers ▪ Activity 2.2.2 Build the capacity of GoS-MoAI at Local, State and Federal level to support communities in the adoption of CRA practices
Output 2.3 Farmers derive increased income from sustainable natural resource management and climate resilient value chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 2.3.1 Improve access to climate resilient inputs for crop and livestock production ▪ Activity 2.3.2 Build the capacity of producer groups to develop sustainable climate-informed business plans ▪ Activity 2.3.3 Increase MSME, cooperatives and farming group access to agricultural finance ▪ Activity 2.3.4 Increase all-season access to market for smallholder producers, cooperatives and farmer groups
Outcome 3 An improved institutional enabling environment for sustainable landscape management and climate resilient agriculture is in place at State and Federal Levels	
Output 3.1 Legal frameworks and implementation modalities for NRM and CRA are improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 3.1.1 Update legal and institutional frameworks for sustainable landscape management ▪ Activity 3.1.2 Strengthen policy dialogue and coordination between sectoral ministries at State levels ▪ Activity 3.1.3 Strengthen the capacity of MoECC to manage, monitor and govern natural resources and implement Ecosystem-based Adaptation ▪ Activity 3.1.4 Build capacity for the monitoring, assessment, analysis and early warning related to the impacts of climate on food security, climate ▪ Activity 3.1.5 Build capacity of MoAI for climate informed irrigation planning
Output 3.2 Increased Access to Climate Information Among Last Mile Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activity 3.2.1 Collect, disseminate and share relevant climate and land data to support decision making, early warning and early action at all levels.

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

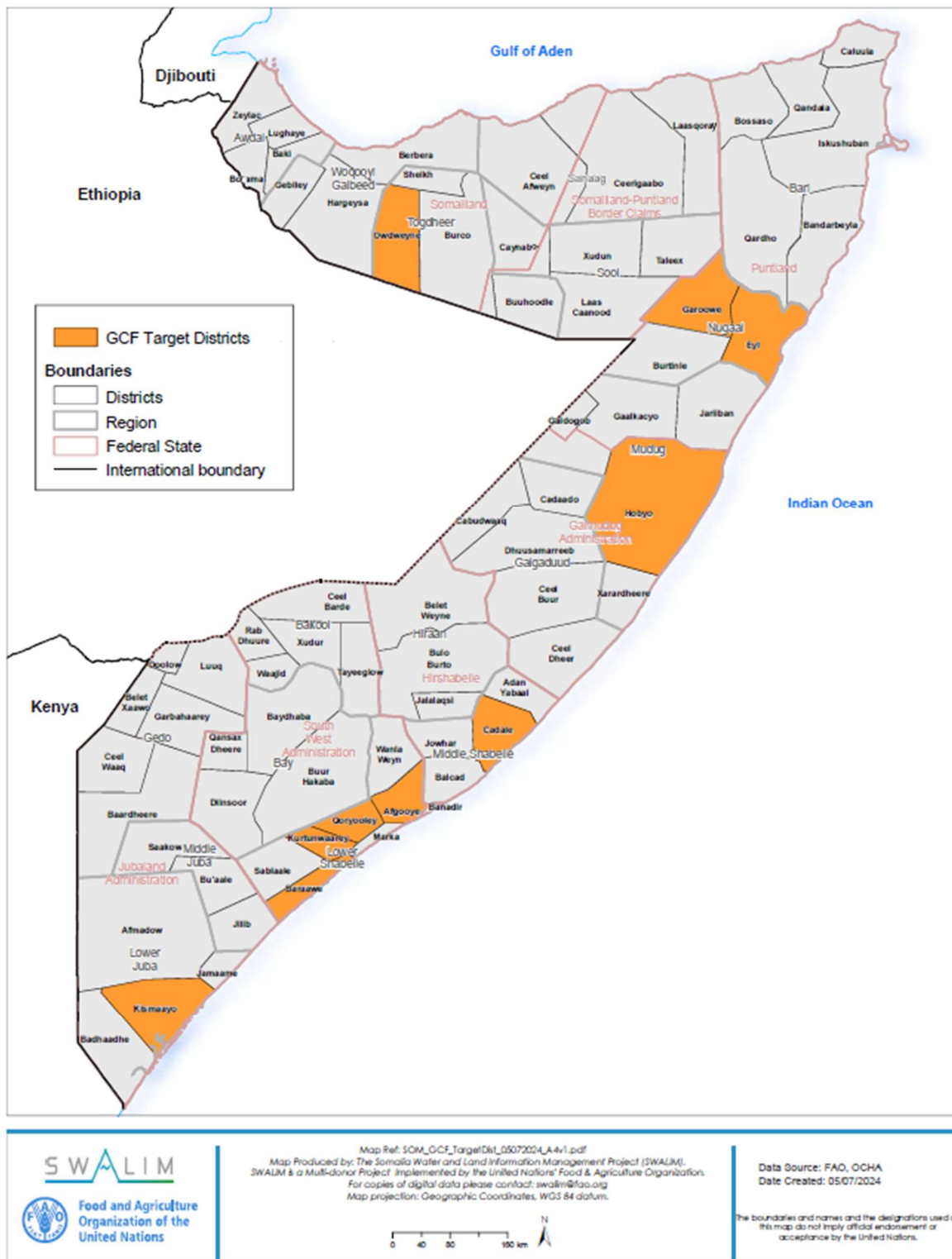
2.2.2. Project objective and expected outcomes

40. The project's objective is to enhance the resilience of rural communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. It seeks to accomplish this through sustainable management of natural resources, the adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices, and the development of agricultural value chains, thereby enabling communities to effectively address the challenges posed by extreme climate events. Focused on six regions—Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, Nugaal, Togdheer, and Mudug—identified for their vulnerability and agricultural potential, the project will benefit a total of 2,124,831 people (1,152,142 direct beneficiaries and 972,689 indirect beneficiaries).
41. Emphasizing three key components—enhancing sustainable natural productive assets, promoting climate-resilient agriculture and livestock, and encouraging sustainable landscape management and climate-resilient agricultural practices—the project's comprehensive strategy aims to overcome the obstacles to climate change adaptation and mitigation. This integrated approach is designed to effectively confront and navigate the complexities of climate vulnerability.
42. Central to the project is a Theory of Change that maps a journey from the present challenges of climate change affecting agriculture and livelihoods to opportunities for sustainable growth and development. By adopting sustainable landscape management, introducing climate-resilient agricultural innovations, and strengthening policy and institutional frameworks, the project endeavors to increase community adaptability and livelihood resilience. Customized interventions, informed by vulnerability assessments specific to each targeted area, ensure that the project's efforts are closely aligned with the unique needs and challenges of the communities involved, thereby aiming to bolster climate resilience across Somalia's varied landscapes and communities.

2.2.3. Project locations

43. The project is set to focus on six regions in Somalia: Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, Nugaal, Togdheer, and Mudug. These include the top three regions identified as having the highest climate risk. The selection of these regions was made through thorough consultations with the Somali Government, aligning with areas of government interest that have recently been reclaimed from the control of Al-Shabaab in the states of Hirshabelle, Galmudug, Jubaland, and South West. These areas, which have not yet benefited from significant investment projects, exhibit considerable needs among rural communities for support in adapting to climate change.

Figure 1 Somalia map & project locations⁴



⁴ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

3. Environmental and social baseline

44. Information from this baseline is primarily sourced from comprehensive background papers produced by FAO, leveraging its extensive history of engagement in the project regions. This foundation is augmented with the most current data available, enriched by insights gathered through direct interviews and focus group discussions to provide an up-to-date overview of environmental and social conditions nationally and within the specific areas targeted for the project.
45. Focusing strictly on matters relevant to environmental and social safeguards, the baseline selectively includes information crucial for understanding the safeguard implications. Additional data is provided as necessary to fill gaps not covered in the project's funding proposal, feasibility studies, or annexes, such as issues related to natural habitats, protected areas (PA), and biodiversity. The assessment commences with national-level information, subsequently narrowing down to detailed environmental and social baselines for each of the seven project regions. For every region, the baseline outlines environmental attributes including climate, soil quality, land use, water resources and irrigation systems, biodiversity, and the status of natural habitats and protected areas. Social dimensions are also comprehensively covered, detailing demographics, education levels, health indicators, socioeconomic conditions, employment patterns, land ownership, social welfare programs, linguistic diversity, and religious practices.

3.1. Geographic location and topography

3.1.1. National level

46. Somalia, nestled in the Horn of Africa, is celebrated for its remarkable coastline, the longest in Africa, which meanders from the Red Sea past Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and along the vast Indian Ocean, covering an expansive 637,657 square kilometres. The landscape is predominantly characterized by vast flat plateaus, coastal plains, and scattered highlands, with a climate that ranges from hot and arid to semi-arid. Despite its unique ecosystems and rich biodiversity, Somalia is ranked 172 out of 182 countries in the ND-GAIN Country Index, reflecting its high vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges, alongside a low readiness to improve resilience. This ranking emphasizes the critical need for comprehensive environmental conservation and management strategies to protect the country's diverse habitats and the communities that depend on them.
47. The Somali climate is heavily influenced by the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), monsoonal winds, ocean currents, and the conditions of the nearby Indian Ocean and Red Sea. Additionally, large-scale ocean-atmospheric processes such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) play significant roles in the variability of rainfall within the region. Somalia experiences two main rainfall seasons: the Gu (March-May) and the Deyr (September-November), with an average annual mean temperature of 30°C and annual precipitation ranging from 50 to 600 mm, categorizing it as primarily arid and semi-arid.
48. A climate risk assessment utilizing the bias-corrected reanalysis dataset W5E5 reveals a significant yearly increase in maximum temperatures across Somalia, ranging from 0.005 to 0.055°C per year, resulting in a temperature rise of 0.15-1.65°C over the period from 1981 to 2010. This assessment also highlights a marked increase in days with maximum temperatures exceeding 35°C, particularly in the southern parts of the country and in western Somaliland, with an overall increase of 15 days per year in 2010 compared to 1981. This indicates a significant trend towards warmer conditions, especially in inland areas bordering Ethiopia and Kenya.
49. Moreover, rainfall trends across the country, as depicted in Figure 2, show variable annual patterns. Although it is challenging to assign statistical significance, the estimated changes in annual rainfall are noteworthy. The southern parts of Somalia, typically receiving higher annual precipitation, have seen a 25% reduction in rainfall, with significant inter-annual variability, translating to a 60 mm difference over the 1981-2010 period. Additionally, the analysis has identified an increase in the number of days with heavy rainfall (≥ 20 mm/day) between 1981 and 2010 in regions such as the Horn, the southern territories bordering Kenya, and the Middle Shebelle, as shown in Figure 3. This variability is further

exemplified by major climate events and floods that have struck the nation, underscoring the severe impact of climate change on Somalia.

50. The analysis on dry days per year and consecutive dry days, illustrated in Figure 4, indicates an increase in both metrics, particularly in the southern and northeastern regions, with an addition of 0.2 to 1 day per year. These shifts are closely linked to the increasing prevalence of La Niña events, which bring about strong winds and a deficiency in rainfall, leading to significant agricultural and hydrological droughts. Such climatic phenomena underscore the complex environmental challenges Somalia confronts, driven by its geographical position and climatic conditions, and highlight the urgent necessity for adaptive, resilient environmental management and conservation strategies to navigate these challenges effectively.

Figure 2 Yearly change in total precipitation in Somalia (1981-2010)

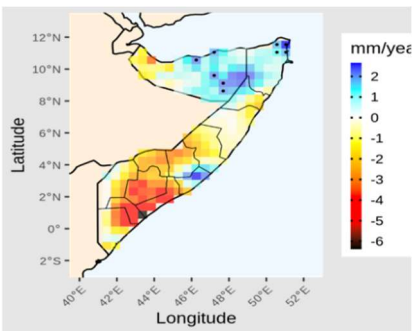


Figure 3 Yearly change in the number of days with heavy rainfall conditions ($\geq 20\text{mm/day}$) in Somalia (1981-2010)

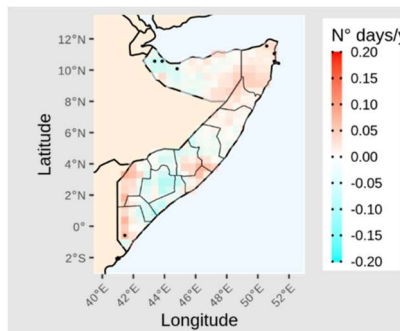
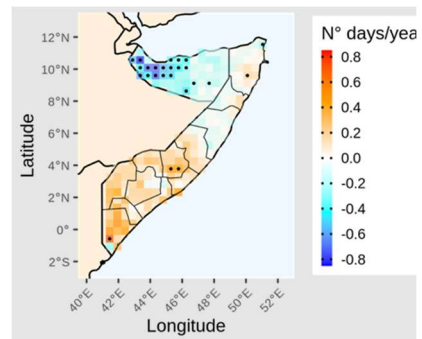


Figure 4 Yearly change in the number of dry days (<math><1\text{mm/day}</math>) in Somalia (1981-2010)



Data source: W5E5 bias-corrected reanalysis dataset. Figure produced with the Climate HAZard toolbox (CHAT) developed at FAO.⁵

3.2. Project area

51. The selection of targeted areas for the project was informed by an in-depth climate risk analysis⁶ that evaluated climate hazards, exposure, vulnerability, and the specific agro-ecological zones within Somalia. This multifaceted analysis incorporated several key components to ascertain areas of priority: (i) Hazard, capturing the frequency and nature of meteorological (e.g., extreme temperature), climatological (e.g. drought), or hydrological (e.g., flood) events or trends; (ii) The degree of human and natural exposure to these climate hazards, taking into account the climate zone, geographical features, population density, and prevalent agricultural and socio-economic activities; (iii) Vulnerability, reflected by the socio-economic conditions of the target population; and (iv) Adaptive capacity, determined by the availability of climate information, access to electricity and the internet, infrastructure development, and the level of national institutional support through policy and financial mechanisms for promoting climate-resilient agriculture.
52. Crucially, the process of selecting these areas also involved extensive consultations with project partners and key stakeholders at both national and regional levels. This collaborative approach ensured that the selection was grounded not only in scientific analysis but also in the practical realities and insights of those directly involved in or affected by the project's outcomes. As a result of this comprehensive and inclusive methodology, a total of seven site areas (see below Table 3) were identified for the project's implementation. This selection strategy ensures that the project is

⁵ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

⁶ The climate risk analysis has been done by using FAO Climate Risk Toolbox – CRTB.

strategically focused on regions where it is most needed and where it can have the most substantial impact, addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change in Somalia.

Table 3 Key characteristics of targeted areas

Region	Key characteristics
Lower Shabelle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agro-pastoral zone, irrigated crops (maize, sesame) ▪ Total population: 1.3 million⁷. 9 % of population in crisis, emergency or catastrophe⁸
Middle Shabelle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agro-pastoral zone, irrigated crops (maize, sesame) ▪ Total population: 0.86 million. 29% of population in crisis, emergency or catastrophe⁹
Lower Juba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agro-pastoral zone, irrigated crops (maize, sesame) ▪ Total population: 0.98 million. 13% of population in crisis, emergency or catastrophe¹⁰
Nugaal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pastoral zone and potential Agro-Pastoral areas ▪ Total population: 0.53 million. 47 % of population in crisis, emergency or catastrophe¹¹
Togdheer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agro-pastoral zone, rainfed crops (+ flood irrigation from highlands) ▪ Total population: 0.73 million. 32 % of population in crisis, emergency or catastrophe¹²
Mudug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral areas (cow peas), some irrigation with underground waters ▪ Total population: 1.2 million. 47% of population in crisis, emergency or catastrophe¹³

3.2.1. Lower Shabelle

53. Figure 5 showcases the Lower Shabelle Region, strategically situated along Somalia's southern coastline. This region is administratively divided into seven districts: Afgooye, Barawe (Brava), Kurtunwarey, Qoryoley, Marka (Merca), Sablaale, and Wanlaweyn, with Marka serving as the capital. Recognized as one of the country's most crucial and affluent areas, Lower Shabelle excels as Somalia's leading zone for irrigated agriculture. It benefits from key transportation routes, including roads connecting Mogadishu to Baidoa and Kismayo, emphasizing its strategic significance for connectivity and trade. The population of Lower Shabelle is remarkably diverse and complex, incorporating indigenous populations that have resided in the area since the pre-colonial era—comprising 55-60% Digil, 30% Hawiye, and 10% Bioyamaal clans—historical migrants from various Somali clans who arrived during the colonial and early independence periods for employment or to invest in agriculture, and families of formidable clan militias established during the civil war era. Despite belonging to the Dir clan family, the Bioyamaal clan is regarded as a minority within the region's rich demographic mosaic.

⁷ UNFPA, 2021

⁸ FSNAU, IPC Population Estimates: Current (Jan-Mar 2023)

⁹ Idem

¹⁰ Idem

¹¹ Idem

¹² Idem

¹³ Idem

59. **Biodiversity (Flora/Fauna):** Lower Shabelle hosts a variety of flora and fauna, supported by its riverine habitats and agricultural landscapes. The region's biodiversity includes several species of birds, reptiles, and mammals that inhabit its diverse ecosystems. However, habitat degradation and human activities pose threats to its biodiversity.
60. **Natural Habitats/Protected Areas:** The region's natural habitats range from coastal ecosystems to riverine forests along the Shabelle River. While there are no formally protected areas in Lower Shabelle, these habitats are crucial for biodiversity conservation and supporting local livelihoods.

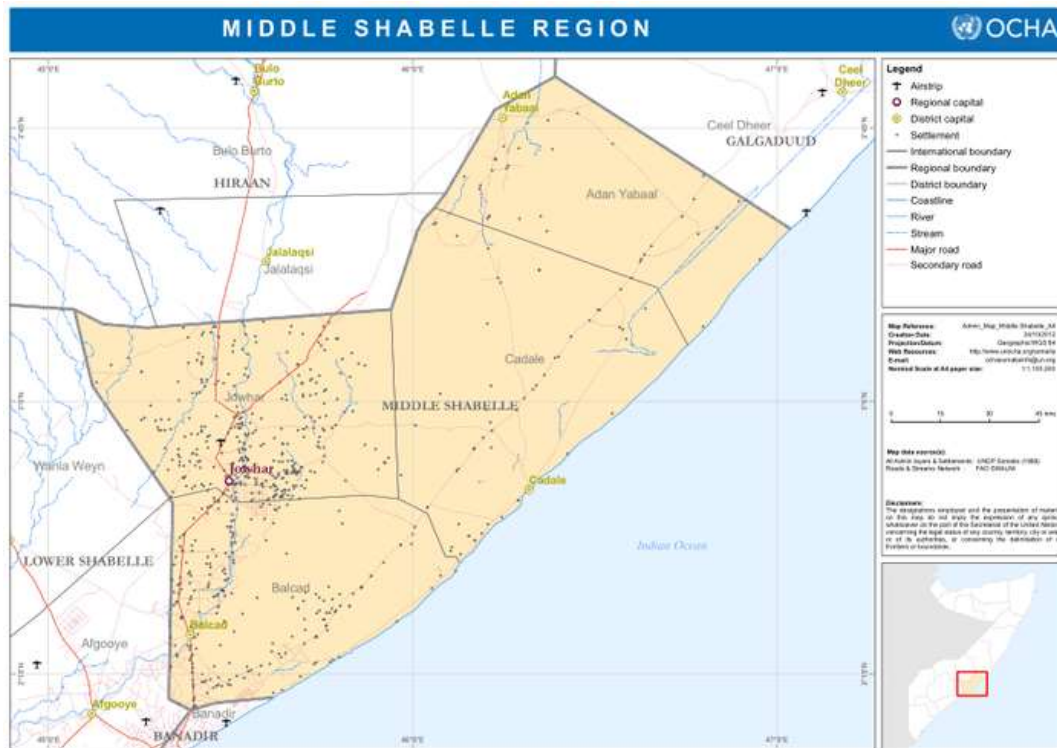
3.2.1.2. Social details

61. **Demographics:** Lower Shabelle is home to a diverse and complex population, comprising indigenous clans and communities of historical migrants and civil war-era settlers. The region's demographic dynamics are influenced by migration, urbanization, and the socio-economic conditions of rural and urban communities.
62. **Education:** Educational facilities in Lower Shabelle vary in availability and quality, with primary and secondary schools concentrated in urban centers. Challenges include access to education in rural areas and the need for infrastructure and resource improvement.
63. **Health:** Healthcare services in the region are under-resourced, with limited access to medical facilities, especially in remote areas. Efforts to improve public health are ongoing, focusing on increasing healthcare access and addressing malnutrition and waterborne diseases.
64. **Poverty:** Poverty is prevalent in Lower Shabelle, exacerbated by limited economic opportunities outside of agriculture, recurrent climatic shocks, and conflict. Rural communities, in particular, face challenges related to food security and access to basic services.
65. **Labour and Land Tenancy:** Agriculture is the main source of employment, with land tenure systems varying between communal and individual ownership. Land disputes and access to agricultural land are significant issues affecting rural livelihoods and social stability.
66. **Additional Information:** Lower Shabelle's strategic importance is underscored by its agricultural productivity and location. Social and economic development is hampered by infrastructural deficits and the need for sustainable management of natural resources. The region's resilience is tested by climatic variations, requiring adaptive strategies for sustainable development.

3.2.2. Middle Shabelle

67. Figure 6 presents an overview of the Middle Shabelle Region, situated in the southeast of Somalia and serving as a pivotal area, bordered by the regions of Benadir/Mogadishu, Lower Shabelle, and Hiraaan. Encompassing four districts — Adan Yabal, Balcad, Jowhar, and Mahaday — Jowhar stands as the regional capital. Dominated by Hawiye sub-clans, particularly the Abgaal, Middle Shabelle is also home to other groups such as the Gaaljeel and the Bantu Shiidle, alongside various minority clans.
68. Middle Shabelle plays a critical economic role due to its fertile lands that are key to agriculture, contributing significantly to Somalia's food security and agricultural output. Its strategic location, lying close to the capital Mogadishu, enhances its importance for trade and logistics, making it a vital conduit for goods moving to and from central and southern Somalia. This economic and strategic significance, combined with its diverse demographic makeup, positions Middle Shabelle as an essential region within Somalia's socio-economic and cultural landscape.

Figure 6 Middle Shabelle Region¹⁵



3.2.2.1. Environmental details

69. **Topography:** Middle Shabelle features a diverse topography that includes riverine landscapes along the Shabelle River, flat agricultural lands, and areas of low-lying plains. The region's geographical layout supports a variety of land uses, primarily agriculture, due to its generally flat terrain conducive to farming and irrigation. Elevation variations are minimal, impacting water flow and drainage across different areas.
70. **Climate/Meteorology:** The climate in Middle Shabelle is characterized by semi-arid conditions with two main rainy seasons: the Gu and the Deyr. Temperatures typically range from moderate to high throughout the year, with fluctuations influenced by the seasonal rains. The region is prone to climatic variations, which can affect agricultural cycles and water availability.
71. **Soil Quality:** Soils in Middle Shabelle are fertile, particularly in the riverine areas, supporting the cultivation of a wide range of crops. This fertility is a result of sediment deposits from the Shabelle River, although issues such as erosion and nutrient depletion pose challenges. Conservation and sustainable land management practices are vital for maintaining soil health.
72. **Land Use:** Agricultural activities dominate the land use in Middle Shabelle, with farms producing cereals, fruits, and vegetables. Beyond agriculture, the land supports pastoralism and limited urban development, particularly around district centers. The region's agricultural output is critical to both local livelihoods and national food security.
73. **Water Resources & Irrigation:** The Shabelle River is a crucial water source for Middle Shabelle, supporting both domestic needs and extensive irrigation systems for agriculture. Seasonal variations in river flow necessitate adaptive irrigation practices to ensure crop sustainability. Access to reliable water sources remains a significant challenge for some communities.

¹⁵ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

74. **Biodiversity (Flora/Fauna):** Middle Shabelle's biodiversity includes a range of species adapted to its riverine and agricultural environments, from aquatic life in the Shabelle River to various bird species and terrestrial fauna. The flora comprises both native and cultivated species, with the riverine forests and agricultural lands hosting diverse ecosystems. Conservation efforts are important for protecting these natural assets.
75. **Natural Habitats/Protected Areas:** The region's natural habitats are varied, with riverine forests, wetlands, and agricultural lands hosting significant biodiversity. While Middle Shabelle lacks formal protected areas, these ecosystems are crucial for biodiversity conservation and supporting community livelihoods.

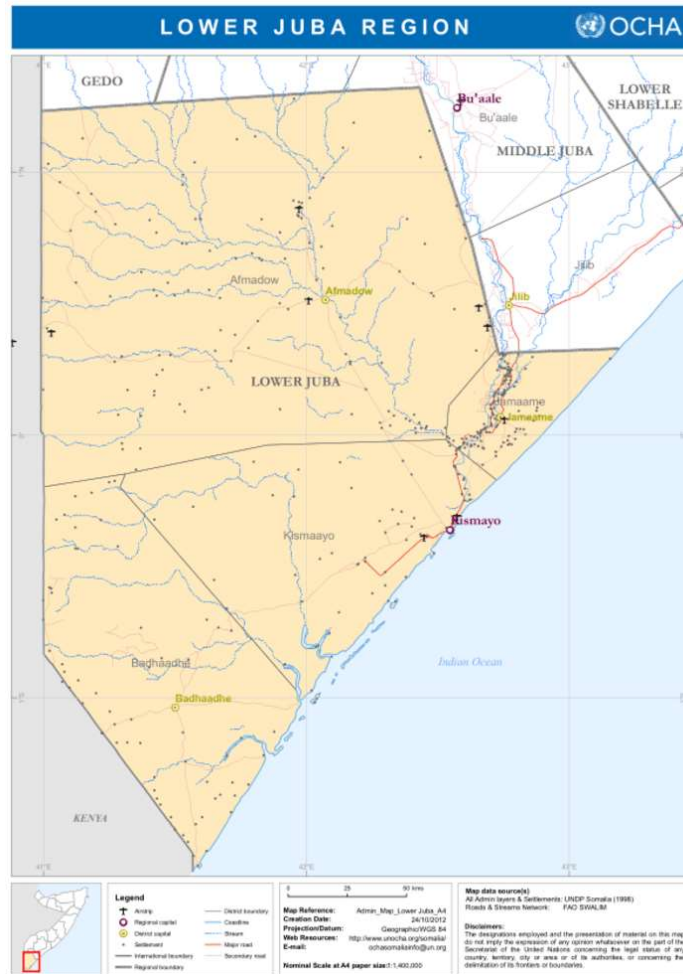
3.2.2.2. Social details

76. **Demographics:** Middle Shabelle is characterized by a diverse population, primarily composed of Hawiye sub-clans, with the Abgaal being the most prominent. Other ethnic groups and minority clans also contribute to the region's demographic complexity. Population distribution is influenced by agricultural practices and urbanization trends.
77. **Education:** Educational services in Middle Shabelle face challenges such as limited access in rural areas and the need for infrastructure improvement. Efforts to enhance educational attainment are ongoing, with a focus on increasing school enrollment and addressing gender disparities. Community involvement is crucial for the development of the education sector.
78. **Health:** Healthcare facilities in Middle Shabelle are under-resourced, with access to medical services varying significantly between urban and rural areas. Common health issues include malnutrition, infectious diseases, and waterborne illnesses. Strengthening healthcare infrastructure and services is a priority for improving public health outcomes.
79. **Poverty:** Poverty is a significant concern in Middle Shabelle, with many communities facing challenges related to economic instability, limited access to basic services, and the impacts of climate variability on agriculture. Rural areas, in particular, experience higher levels of poverty, affecting food security and overall well-being.
80. **Labour and Land Tenancy:** Agriculture is the main source of employment in Middle Shabelle, with land tenure systems including both communal and private ownership. Land disputes and access issues are prevalent, affecting agricultural productivity and community relations. Labour opportunities outside agriculture are limited, highlighting the need for diversified economic development.
81. **Additional Information:** Middle Shabelle's strategic importance is underscored by its contribution to Somalia's agricultural sector and its proximity to Mogadishu. Social and economic development challenges include infrastructure deficits, environmental degradation, and the need for sustainable natural resource management. Addressing these issues is key to enhancing the region's resilience and socio-economic progress.

3.2.3. Lower Juba

82. Figure 7 presents the Lower Juba region, positioned as the southernmost region of Somalia, encompassing four districts: Afmadow, Badhadhe, Kismayo, and Jamame. Kismayo, serving as the capital, is also the administrative hub of Jubbaland. Lower Juba stands out for its demographic diversity, home to a variety of clans and ethnic groups including the Somali Bantu (also known as Jareer), Biyomaal (Dir clan), Tunni (Digil-Mirifle), Mohamed Zubier/Ogaden (Darood clan), along with other Darood clans, Gaaljaal, Harti (Darood), Somali Bajuni, and smaller enclaves of other clans. Kismayo, in particular, exhibits a dynamic and complex demographic structure, significantly influenced by the political, economic, and military predominance of the Ogaden clan, notably the Mohamed Zubier sub-clan, since 2012. As of 2021, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimated Lower Juba's population to be approximately 979,998 people, highlighting the region's significant size and complexity.

Figure 7 Lower Juba Region¹⁶



3.2.3.1. Environmental details

83. **Topography:** Lower Juba's landscape is marked by a mix of coastal plains, riverine areas along the Juba River, and semi-arid bushland. The region's topography supports diverse ecosystems, from lush riverbanks to dry, sparsely vegetated areas. Its relatively flat terrain is punctuated by occasional hillocks and plateaus, providing unique ecological niches.
84. **Climate/Meteorology:** The region experiences a hot semi-arid climate, with two distinct rainy seasons: the Gu (April to June) and the Deyr (October to December). Temperatures are generally high year-round, with slight variations during the rainy seasons. Lower Juba is susceptible to climate variability, including droughts and floods that significantly impact local livelihoods.
85. **Soil Quality:** Soils in Lower Juba vary from fertile alluvial soils along the Juba River to sandy and loamy soils in the hinterlands, supporting varied agricultural practices. Despite the potential for agriculture, soil erosion and degradation pose challenges. Sustainable land management practices are essential to maintain soil fertility and support agriculture.
86. **Land Use:** Agriculture, including crop farming and pastoralism, dominates the land use in Lower Juba, exploiting the fertile soils along the Juba River. The region also sees significant land use for settlements,

¹⁶ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

particularly in and around Kismayo. The balance between agricultural development and natural vegetation is crucial for environmental sustainability.

87. **Water Resources & Irrigation:** The Juba River is a critical water source for Lower Juba, supporting both community water needs and irrigation for agriculture. Despite the river's importance, seasonal variability affects water availability, and irrigation infrastructure requires development to optimize agricultural production. Access to clean water remains a challenge in more remote areas.
88. **Biodiversity (Flora/Fauna):** Lower Juba's biodiversity is rich, with a variety of plant and animal life thriving in its riverine and bushland habitats. The area is home to species adapted to both wet and dry conditions, including various birds, reptiles, and mammals. Conservation efforts are needed to protect these natural assets against habitat loss and degradation.
89. **Natural Habitats/Protected Areas:** Natural habitats in Lower Juba include the riparian zones along the Juba River, coastal mangroves, and bushland areas, each supporting diverse ecosystems. While formal protected areas are limited, these habitats are vital for biodiversity conservation and sustaining local communities.

3.2.3.2. Social details

90. **Demographics:** Lower Juba is demographically diverse, with a population comprising Somali Bantu, Biyomaal, Tunni, Ogaden, and other clans. This diversity reflects the region's complex social fabric, influenced by historical migrations and recent political dynamics. Kismayo, the region's capital, is a focal point of this demographic complexity.
91. **Education:** Educational services in Lower Juba face challenges, including limited access to schools, especially in rural areas, and a need for improved educational infrastructure and resources. Efforts to enhance literacy and educational attainment are ongoing, with a focus on increasing enrollment and reducing gender disparities.
92. **Health:** Healthcare access in Lower Juba is limited, with insufficient medical facilities and services, particularly outside of urban centers like Kismayo. Common health concerns include malnutrition, infectious diseases, and lack of clean water, underscoring the need for improved public health initiatives.
93. **Poverty:** Poverty is widespread in Lower Juba, exacerbated by limited economic opportunities, recurring climatic shocks, and ongoing security challenges. Rural communities are particularly vulnerable, with many relying on subsistence farming and pastoralism for their livelihoods.
94. **Labour and Land Tenancy:** The economy of Lower Juba is primarily based on agriculture and pastoralism, with land tenure practices varying between communal lands and private ownership. Disputes over land rights and access to resources are common, affecting agricultural productivity and community cohesion.
95. **Additional Information:** Lower Juba's strategic importance is highlighted by its location, demographic diversity, and agricultural potential. Addressing challenges such as infrastructure development, environmental conservation, and social services is critical for the region's stability and growth. Efforts to leverage Lower Juba's economic and natural resources for sustainable development are essential for improving the well-being of its diverse population.

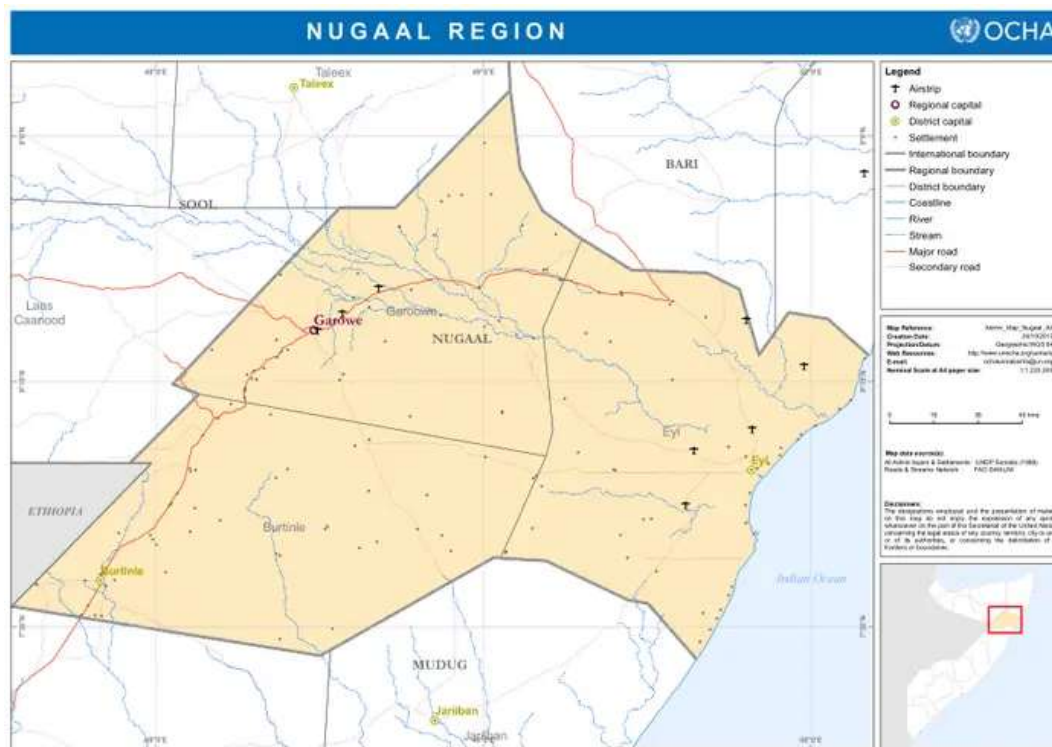
3.2.4. Nugaal

96. Figure 8 illustrates the Nugaal Region, situated in the northeastern part of Somalia, within the autonomous state of Puntland. It is composed of three administrative districts: Garowe, Eyl, and Dangorayo, with Garowe not only serving as one of the districts but also as the region's capital. The clan composition in Nugaal is relatively homogeneous, with the Issa Mahmud clan prominently established across the region. The Omar Mahmud clan, part of the larger Darood/Harti group, is notably influential in the southern areas of Nugaal and extends into northern Mudug. Near the coastal town of

Eyl, the smaller Awrtable clan is situated. As of 2014, the population of Nugaal was estimated to be 392,698 by the UNFPA and Somali authorities.

97. Economically, Nugaal is pivotal due to its livestock trade, which is a central aspect of its economy, while Garowe, the capital, is emerging as a hub for education and telecommunications. Strategically positioned, Nugaal connects various parts of Somalia, making it vital for trade routes and mobility across the Somali Peninsula. The economic activities, coupled with the region's clan homogeneity, have contributed to a stable environment, making Nugaal a critical region within Puntland and Somalia for both economic development and strategic connectivity.

Figure 8 Nugaal Region¹⁷



3.2.4.1. Environmental details

98. **Topography:** Nugaal Region showcases a varied landscape, featuring semi-arid plains, rugged terrain, and occasional hills, particularly towards the interior. The topography facilitates pastoralism and limited agriculture, defining the livelihoods of its inhabitants. The region's elevation gradually increases from the coastal areas to the interior, offering diverse ecological zones.
99. **Climate/Meteorology:** Characterized by a semi-arid climate, Nugaal experiences low annual rainfall and high temperature variations, with distinct dry and rainy seasons. The climate supports sparse vegetation and is conducive to pastoral and nomadic lifestyles. Occasional droughts and rare floods significantly impact the region's water availability and agricultural capacity.
100. **Soil Quality:** Soil in Nugaal is generally sandy and less fertile, typical of arid and semi-arid lands, posing challenges for large-scale agriculture. Areas closer to seasonal watercourses may possess more arable land, supporting limited agricultural activities. Soil conservation and sustainable management practices are essential to mitigate erosion and improve agricultural productivity.

¹⁷ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

101. **Land Use:** The predominant land use in Nugaal is pastoralism, with herding of goats, sheep, and camels forming the backbone of the local economy. Limited agriculture occurs near water sources, focusing on subsistence crops. Urban areas, particularly Garowe, serve as administrative and trade centers, with growing infrastructure development.
102. **Water Resources & Irrigation:** Water resources in Nugaal are primarily seasonal, with reliance on rainwater harvesting and shallow wells. The region's water scarcity challenges are exacerbated by the semi-arid climate, making sustainable water management a priority. Irrigation practices are minimal and typically localized, dependent on the availability of groundwater or seasonal rivers.
103. **Biodiversity (Flora/Fauna):** Nugaal's biodiversity is adapted to arid conditions, with flora including drought-resistant shrubs and trees, and fauna comprising nomadic wildlife species such as antelopes and various bird species. The region's ecosystem supports a balance between pastoralism and wildlife conservation. Efforts are ongoing to document and protect the unique biodiversity within the context of climatic challenges.
104. **Natural Habitats/Protected Areas:** Natural habitats in Nugaal include semi-arid bushland and grasslands, which are critical for pastoralism and wildlife. While formal protected areas are scarce, these ecosystems are essential for maintaining the region's ecological balance. Community-led conservation initiatives are crucial for protecting these natural habitats amid increasing environmental pressures.

3.2.4.2. Social details

105. **Demographics:** Nugaal is home to a predominantly nomadic population, with clans such as the Darood (particularly the Majerteen and Omar Mohamoud sub-clans) forming the majority. The demographic structure is influenced by pastoralism, migration, and urbanization trends. Garowe, as the region's capital, is a focal point for political and economic activities, attracting diverse population groups.
106. **Education:** Educational facilities in Nugaal have been expanding, yet access remains limited in remote pastoral areas. Initiatives to increase enrollment rates, particularly for girls, are vital for the region's development. Garowe serves as an educational hub, hosting several higher education institutions and vocational training centers.
107. **Health:** Healthcare services in Nugaal are concentrated in urban centers like Garowe, with limited access in rural and nomadic communities. Primary health concerns include malnutrition, infectious diseases, and maternal health. Improving healthcare infrastructure and outreach services is critical for enhancing public health outcomes.
108. **Poverty:** Poverty in Nugaal is prevalent, particularly among nomadic and rural communities, driven by limited access to education, healthcare, and sustainable income sources. Economic diversification and development initiatives are needed to address the root causes of poverty. Social safety nets and development programs are essential for vulnerable populations.
109. **Labour and Land Tenancy:** The economy in Nugaal is predominantly based on livestock rearing, with land tenure practices centered around communal grazing rights and limited agricultural land use. Urbanization has led to increased land tenure complexity, particularly in and around Garowe. Addressing land disputes and promoting sustainable land use are important for regional stability.
110. **Additional Information:** Nugaal's strategic significance stems from its political role within Puntland, its economic activities centered on livestock, and its growing urban centers. Challenges such as climate change, resource management, and infrastructure development are key to the region's future. Efforts to bolster social services, economic resilience, and environmental sustainability are underway to ensure the region's continued development and stability.

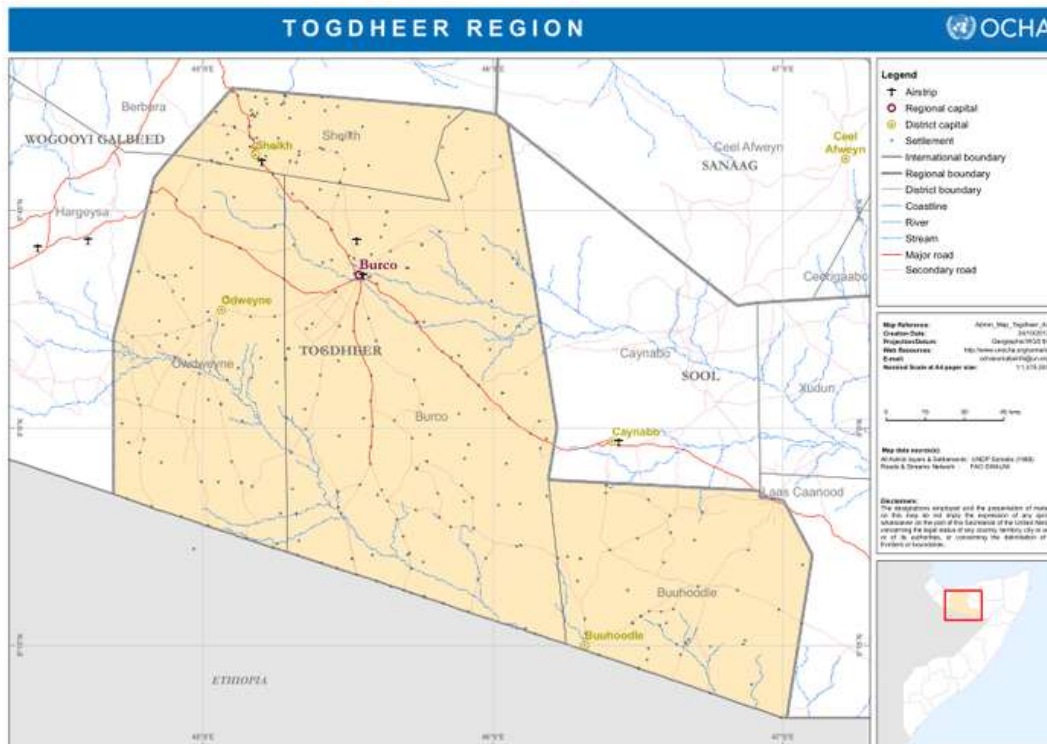
3.2.5. Togdheer

111. Figure 9 highlights the Togdheer Region, which is segmented into four districts: Burco (the regional capital), Oodweyne, Buuhoodle, and Sheikh. Togdheer, located in the northern part of Somalia, is a

region with a rich cultural heritage and diverse clan dynamics, predominantly inhabited by the Habar Yunis and Habar Jeclo clans. The area to the west of Burco is home to the Idagalle and other smaller sub-clans, closely affiliated with the Habar Yunis. Meanwhile, Buuhoodle, situated in the southern part of the region, is primarily composed of members from the Dhulbahante clan. As of 2021, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimated the Togdheer population to be 728,223.

112. Economically, Togdheer is significant for its contribution to the agricultural and livestock sectors, serving as a crucial hub for both trade and pastoralism within Somalia. The strategic location of Togdheer, especially its capital Burco, positions it as a vital commercial center, linking various parts of the country and facilitating trade routes that extend beyond its borders. The region's robust economic activities, coupled with its strategic position, underscore Togdheer's importance in Somalia's socio-economic landscape, contributing to its overall stability and development.

Figure 9 Togdheer Region¹⁸



3.2.5.1. Environmental details

113. **Topography:** Togdheer is characterized by its semi-arid landscapes, featuring a mix of flat plains and rugged terrains, with occasional hills and mountains that contribute to its varied topography. This diversity supports different types of land use, from pastoralism to limited agriculture. The region's elevation varies, influencing its climate and water flow patterns.

114. **Climate/Meteorology:** The region experiences a semi-arid climate, with hot temperatures throughout the year and two main rainy seasons that are crucial for replenishing water sources and supporting agriculture. Variability in rainfall and occasional droughts pose significant challenges to the livelihoods of local communities. The climate supports a nomadic lifestyle, with pastoralism being a primary economic activity.

¹⁸ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

115. **Soil Quality:** Soil in Togdheer varies in quality, with areas of fertile land suitable for agriculture, particularly near water sources, and more arid zones where the soil is less conducive to crop production. Soil erosion and degradation are challenges in some areas, necessitating sustainable land management practices. The agricultural potential is limited but significant in certain pockets of the region.
116. **Land Use:** The majority of Togdheer's land is used for pastoralism, with nomadic and semi-nomadic communities herding livestock as their main livelihood. Agriculture is practiced in areas where water availability allows, focusing on subsistence crops and some cash crops. Urbanization is increasing, especially in major towns like Burco, impacting land use patterns.
117. **Water Resources & Irrigation:** Water resources in Togdheer are primarily seasonal, with reliance on the rainy seasons to fill catchment areas and shallow wells. Limited irrigation practices are employed in agricultural areas, dependent on the availability of surface water and groundwater. Water scarcity is a significant issue, affecting both human and livestock populations.
118. **Biodiversity (Flora/Fauna):** The region's biodiversity is adapted to its semi-arid conditions, with a range of drought-resistant plant species and wildlife that can survive in harsh environments. Fauna includes species such as antelopes, birds, and small mammals, which are integral to the ecosystem. Conservation efforts are needed to protect these species and their habitats.
119. **Natural Habitats/Protected Areas:** Togdheer's natural habitats include semi-arid grasslands and scrublands, which support its pastoral and agricultural activities. While there are no formal protected areas, these ecosystems are crucial for biodiversity and the livelihoods of local communities. Preservation of these natural habitats is essential for ecological balance and sustainability.

3.2.5.2. Social details

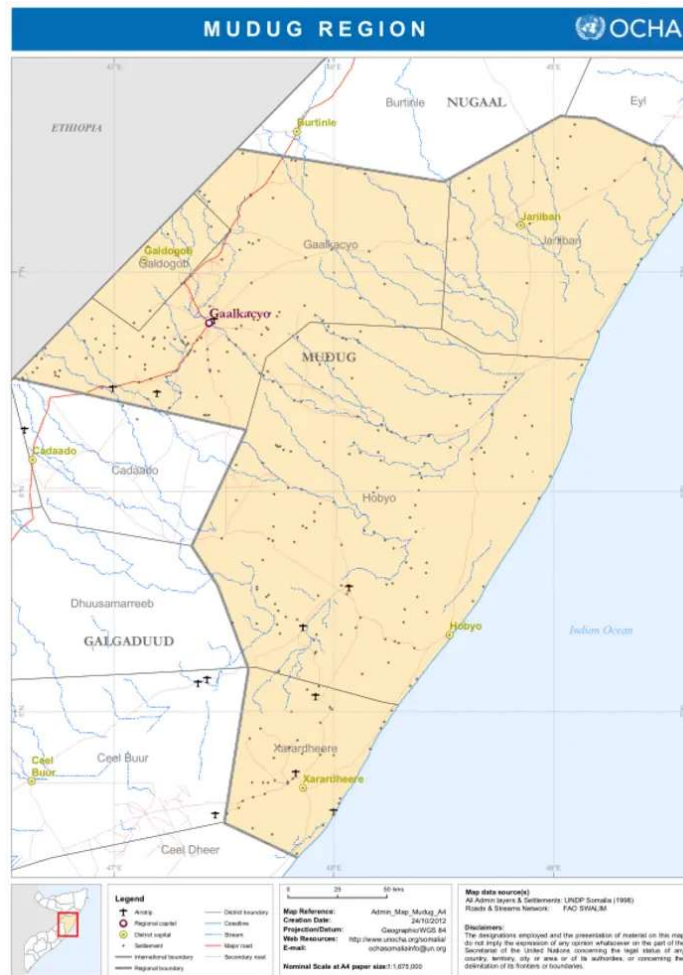
120. **Demographics:** Togdheer's population is composed of various Somali clans, with pastoralism and agriculture shaping the social and economic fabric of the region. The region's demographic profile is influenced by rural-to-urban migration, particularly to areas like Burco, which is a major urban center. Clan affiliations play a significant role in social and political dynamics.
121. **Education:** Access to education in Togdheer varies, with urban areas like Burco offering more educational facilities compared to rural and nomadic settings. Challenges include a shortage of schools, trained teachers, and educational materials. Efforts are ongoing to improve literacy rates and educational access for all children.
122. **Health:** Healthcare services in Togdheer are limited, especially in remote and rural areas, with urban centers providing the majority of medical facilities. Common health challenges include waterborne diseases, malnutrition, and maternal health issues. Improving healthcare access and quality remains a priority for regional development.
123. **Poverty:** Poverty is prevalent in Togdheer, with many communities facing economic hardships exacerbated by environmental factors such as drought and limited access to resources. Rural and nomadic populations are particularly vulnerable. Development initiatives aim to improve livelihoods through economic diversification and support for sustainable practices.
124. **Labour and Land Tenancy:** Livestock rearing and agriculture are the main sources of labor in Togdheer, with land tenure systems traditionally based on communal grazing rights and agricultural land use. Urbanization and the development of towns like Burco are creating new employment opportunities. Land disputes and tenure security are emerging issues as the region develops.
125. **Additional Information:** Togdheer's strategic importance lies in its role as a cultural and economic hub in northern Somalia, with Burco serving as a key urban center. The region faces challenges related to climate change, resource management, and infrastructure needs. Addressing these challenges through sustainable development and social services improvement is vital for Togdheer's future.

3.2.6. Mudug

126. Figure 10 presents the Mudug region, a unique area that straddles the administrative boundaries of Galmudug and Puntland, with Puntland administering the northern portion. Galkacyo, the regional capital situated in Mudug's western part, is notably divided between Galmudug in the south and Puntland in the north. The region encompasses five districts: Galkacyo, Hobyo, Jariban, Goldogob, and Harardhere. Mudug's demographic landscape varies, with the southern parts predominantly inhabited by the Saad sub-clan of Habr Gedir (Hawiye), and the north by the Omar Mohamoud sub-clan of Majerteen (Darood), each asserting dominance in their respective areas. Additionally, cross-border clan affiliations add to the region's complex social fabric. As of 2021, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimated Mudug's population to be 1,244,027.

127. Economically, Mudug plays a critical role due to its coastal access and the presence of key ports like Hobyo, facilitating trade and fishing activities that contribute significantly to the local and national economy. Its strategic location, bridging the northern and southern parts of Somalia, enhances its importance as a commercial and logistical hub. The division of Galkacyo into two administrative areas reflects the broader geopolitical dynamics within Somalia, making Mudug pivotal in efforts towards stability, economic development, and inter-regional collaboration.

Figure 10 Mudug Region¹⁹



¹⁹ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

3.2.6.1. Environmental details

128. **Topography:** Mudug's landscape is diverse, featuring coastal plains along the Indian Ocean, semi-arid bushlands, and the central plateaus that characterize much of Somalia's terrain. The region's varied topography supports a mix of pastoralism, agriculture, and urban settlement, particularly in and around Galkacyo, the regional capital. Its geographical diversity also influences climate patterns and resource distribution across the region.
129. **Climate/Meteorology:** The climate in Mudug is predominantly semi-arid, marked by hot temperatures throughout the year and two main rainy seasons that are crucial for the region's water supply and agriculture. Variability in rainfall, along with frequent droughts, presents significant challenges to the livelihoods of its inhabitants. The coastal areas experience milder climates but are subject to the same rainfall unpredictability as the interior.
130. **Soil Quality:** Soil quality in Mudug varies, with fertile areas along the seasonal riverbeds supporting agricultural activities and more arid, less fertile soils dominating the bushlands and plateaus. Soil erosion and degradation pose ongoing challenges, necessitating sustainable land management practices to maintain agricultural productivity. Conservation efforts are critical to combating desertification in the region.
131. **Land Use:** Land use in Mudug is primarily divided between pastoralism in the bushlands and agriculture in areas with better soil and water availability. Urban areas, notably Galkacyo, are centers of trade, services, and government activities, with land also used for residential and commercial purposes. The balance between these uses is crucial for the region's economic stability and environmental health.
132. **Water Resources & Irrigation:** Water resources in Mudug are scarce, with reliance on seasonal rivers, shallow wells, and rainwater harvesting to meet both domestic and agricultural needs. Limited irrigation systems are utilized in agricultural areas, but these depend heavily on the unpredictable rainy seasons. Ensuring access to reliable water sources remains a significant challenge for Mudug.
133. **Biodiversity (Flora/Fauna):** The biodiversity in Mudug includes a variety of plant species adapted to its semi-arid conditions and wildlife such as antelopes, foxes, and various bird species that inhabit its grasslands and bushlands. The coastal and marine biodiversity adds to the region's ecological richness, including fish and marine mammals. Conservation of these species and their habitats is essential for Mudug's ecological balance.
134. **Natural Habitats/Protected Areas:** Mudug's natural habitats range from coastal ecosystems to inland semi-arid landscapes, supporting diverse ecosystems. While formal protected areas are limited, these habitats are crucial for the region's biodiversity and the livelihoods of local communities. Efforts to establish protected areas and conservation programs are important for preserving Mudug's natural heritage.

3.2.6.2. Social details

135. **Demographics:** Mudug's population is diverse, with various Somali clans and sub-clans present, reflecting the region's complex social fabric. The division of Galkacyo between Galmudug and Puntland adds to the demographic complexity, influencing social, economic, and political dynamics. Population growth in urban areas, especially Galkacyo, challenges infrastructure and services.
136. **Education:** Educational access in Mudug varies, with more established facilities in urban centers like Galkacyo and limited resources in rural areas. Efforts to improve education focus on increasing school enrolment, reducing gender disparities, and enhancing the quality of education. Challenges include a shortage of trained teachers and educational materials.
137. **Health:** Healthcare services in Mudug are concentrated in larger towns, with many rural areas lacking sufficient medical facilities. Common health challenges include malnutrition, infectious diseases, and limited access to clean water and sanitation. Improving healthcare access and quality is a priority for regional development.

138. **Poverty:** Poverty is a significant issue in Mudug, with rural and nomadic populations particularly vulnerable due to limited access to education, healthcare, and stable income sources. Economic hardships are exacerbated by environmental challenges and insecurity in certain areas. Development initiatives aim to address poverty through economic diversification and support for vulnerable communities.
139. **Labour and Land Tenancy:** The economy of Mudug is based largely on livestock rearing, agriculture, and trade, with land tenure practices that include communal grazing rights and agricultural land use. Urbanization and economic development in areas like Galkacyo create new employment opportunities but also raise issues of land rights and tenure security. Addressing these concerns is crucial for economic stability and social cohesion.
140. **Additional Information:** Mudug's strategic position and economic activities, especially in the sectors of agriculture, livestock, and trade, make it a key region in Somalia. Challenges such as climate change, resource management, and infrastructural development are central to Mudug's future prospects. Enhancing social services, economic resilience, and environmental sustainability are ongoing priorities for improving the well-being of Mudug's diverse population. Summary and Implications for the Project Areas
141. The project spans seven regions across Somalia, each with distinct environmental and topographical characteristics, underscoring the country's diverse ecological landscape. From the semi-arid plains and rugged terrains of Nugaal to the fertile alluvial soils along the Juba and Shabelle rivers in Lower Juba and Lower Shabelle, respectively, the project area encompasses a wide range of ecological zones. The coastal plains of Mudug, and the pastoral and agricultural lands of Togdheer further contribute to the project's diverse environmental setting. This diversity not only reflects the rich natural heritage of Somalia but also presents unique challenges and opportunities for sustainable development and environmental conservation within the project's scope.
142. Climate patterns across these regions are marked by semi-arid conditions, with two main rainy seasons that are critical for replenishing water resources and supporting agriculture. However, variability in rainfall and the frequency of droughts pose significant challenges, impacting water availability, agricultural productivity, and food security. The climate's influence extends to the social fabric of these regions, where communities predominantly engage in pastoralism, agriculture, and trade. The project areas' vulnerability to climate change effects, such as altered crop-growing seasons and reduced water sources, highlights the need for integrated approaches to manage natural resources, enhance resilience, and support adaptive capacities of local communities.
143. The social landscape of the project areas is characterized by a diverse demographic profile, with various Somali clans and sub-clans shaping the cultural and social dynamics. Education, healthcare, and economic opportunities vary across the regions, with challenges exacerbated by poverty, limited access to services, and the impacts of climate variability. The heightened vulnerability of these regions to climate change underscores the uneven impact across Somalia's diverse landscape, emphasizing the critical need for targeted interventions. These areas, pivotal for the nation's food supply and economic stability, are at the forefront of experiencing the harshest consequences of climate change. Addressing these challenges through the project will not only contribute to the sustainability and resilience of Somalia's ecological and social systems but also bolster the country's overall development trajectory.

4. Conflict sensitivity assessment

4.1 Overview of conflict in Somalia

144. Somalia has indeed made significant strides on its path to recovery and state building after decades of conflict. The formation of Federal Member States (FMS), the operationalization of the first National Development Plan: NDP) in 30 years, and successful political transitions in 2012 and 2016/17 have all

contributed to a renewed sense of optimism among the public. These developments have provided momentum for peace and development, despite the ongoing challenges.

145. However, the political environment remains volatile, particularly in the relationships between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and FMS, hindering progress on crucial state-building processes like the constitution review and the electoral model for the upcoming elections. These issues, along with revenue sharing and territorial boundaries, have seen slow progress due to the lack of political dialogue and consensus-building.
146. Government institutions have made some key strides despite the challenges, with advancements in peace and reconciliation processes being a priority from grassroots to federal levels. The continued focus on state building as a means to strengthen trust, social cohesion, and sustainable peace is crucial, with an emphasis on incorporating conflict-sensitive approaches to the development agenda.
147. Agriculture remains a key component of Somalia's development, vital for the livelihoods of around 60% of the rural population. Yet, governance challenges and the harsh climate, characterized by erratic rainfall and recurrent dry spells, severely limit the sector's potential, leaving farmers and agro-pastoralists highly vulnerable.
148. Somalia's prolonged conflict, exacerbated by climate change, underlines the critical need for conflict-sensitive climate finance. The diverse conflict drivers across regions, from clan disputes to Al-Shabaab's insurgency, necessitate a tailored approach to each area, particularly focusing on engaging women and youth who are often the most affected yet underrepresented in peacebuilding and climate resilience initiatives.
149. The complex interplay of social, political, and environmental factors continues to affect Somalia's stability and security. Conflicts over land or pasture and water access manifest differently across the country, influenced by local governance, community structures, and the variability of natural resources. Insurgent groups like Al-Shabaab can aggravate existing tensions, further complicating the peace dynamics.

4.2 Land and water-based conflict

150. Land and water disputes and the granular level in Somalia is consistent with higher-level environmental, socio-political, and economic complexities. Ongoing conflicts, particularly among agricultural, agro-pastoral, and pastoralist communities are deeply rooted in a historical context that includes the weakening of institutional capacities, shifts away from traditional land governance practices, and the impact of historical policies on current land use and management. The competition for land and water resources is further intensified by population growth, land degradation, and the adverse effects of climate change, leading to a cycle of resource scarcity and conflict.
151. In areas where fertile farmland is a coveted asset, inter-riverine communities often clash, leading to the displacement of populations and subsequent socio-economic downturns in urban settings. The intensity of these conflicts is often manipulated by insurgent groups, which exploit the discord to rally support for their causes in larger regional or global arenas, inflaming the violence further and derailing established, traditional means of dispute resolution. Additionally, the gradual takeover of lands traditionally used for pastoral grazing—through both the division of these lands into smaller plots and the outright seizure of resources by influential figures or organizations—has substantially reduced the space available for pastoralist livelihoods, heightening tensions due to the increased scarcity of these critical resources.
152. Climate change adds a layer of complexity by necessitating adjustments in pastoral production systems, which are inherently adaptable to environmental fluctuations but require access to new grazing areas to cope with changing resource patterns. The peaceful relocation and adjustment of tenure rights are essential for mitigating potential conflicts arising from these environmental changes.
153. In parallel, the water sector in Somalia faces its own set of challenges, characterized by fragmentation and a lack of coordination that impedes the development of a cohesive water governance framework. The country's variable rainfall patterns, coupled with the challenges posed by transboundary water resources, underscore the urgent need for cooperative management strategies.

Water access and management issues critically affect rural populations, with control over primary and secondary canal water access often lying in the hands of influential power brokers. This control dynamic restricts rural communities' access to tertiary water resources, essential for agriculture and livestock, and exacerbates intercommunal tensions as communities are compelled to adapt their livelihood strategies.

154. The escalation of competition over scarce natural resources is further worsened by climate change, with clan militias and extremist groups exploiting these environmental pressures for recruitment and mobilization. These insurgents frequently engage in violent land claims and impose levies on natural resources, such as charcoal, intensifying communal conflicts. Their actions exploit the vulnerabilities of weak governmental institutions, creating a cycle of violence that undermines traditional conflict resolution mechanisms and exacerbates climate-induced violence.
155. Addressing these intertwined challenges requires a multifaceted approach that encompasses strengthening institutional capacities, reviving traditional governance practices, and developing sustainable land and water management frameworks. By tackling the root causes of these disputes, Somalia can pave the way for lasting peace and resilience in the face of environmental and socio-political challenges.

4.3 Regional conflict analysis and the role of key actors

Puntland and Somaliland:

156. These regions, while more stable, grapple with territorial disputes and resource competition. Longstanding tensions between Puntland and Somaliland over the Sool and Sanaag regions often verges into escalating to open warfare, potentially destabilizing northern Somalia and beyond. Both regions have massed forces, and increased artillery and mortar shelling around strategically located towns. The UN, along with the Somali Government and Ethiopia, have been urged to mediate, aiming to de-escalate tensions and prevent the conflict from exacerbating further.
157. *Puntland*: Puntland itself, however, compared to other Somali regions, faces challenges with clan disputes, piracy, and terrorism. The region is also not immune to climate security risks, with recurring droughts and disputes over land and water resources exacerbating tensions between largely pastoralist communities.
158. *Somaliland*: Somaliland, asserting its independence since 1991, also showcases a relatively more stable governance model and peacebuilding processes. The inclusion of women and youth in political and peace processes has contributed to its relative stability. Elders and traditional clan systems remain influential in resolving conflicts. However, climate change impacts, particularly land degradation and water scarcity, challenge Somaliland's peace and security, fueling competition over diminishing resources.

Galmudug

159. Galmudug's central position in Somalia makes it a focal point for conflicts involving state and non-state actors, including Al-Shabaab. The region's complex clan dynamics often involve women, youth, and elders in peace negotiations, although their roles are sometimes undermined by external interventions. Climate change exacerbates existing conflicts, with increasing competition over water and land resources, impacting agricultural and pastoralist livelihoods.

Shabelle Regions

160. The Shabelle regions, characterized by fertile lands and the Shabelle River, are prone to conflicts over water access and land ownership, intensified by clan rivalries and Al-Shabaab's presence.

161. Efforts by community leaders, including women and elders, to mediate conflicts are notable, yet the challenges of managing natural resources in a changing climate add layers of complexity to the peace and security landscape.
162. Characterized by political fragmentation and Al-Shabaab's presence, these regions require interventions that not only address immediate climate and conflict challenges but also bolster long-term resilience.

Lower Juba

163. Lower Juba, bordering Kenya, experiences significant conflict, driven by territorial control battles between Somali forces, Kenyan troops, and Al-Shabaab. The roles of women, youth, and elders are pivotal in community resilience, often mediating conflicts and sustaining social cohesion amidst violence. Land and water disputes are prevalent, with climate change heightening the risks and impacts of resource conflicts.
164. In this highly volatile region, climate finance initiatives should prioritize security and livelihood restoration. Engaging women and youth, across age groups and sectors, in peace dialogues and economic empowerment programs can contribute to breaking the cycle of violence. Sustainable water resource management practices are essential to support agriculture and livelihoods, reducing vulnerability to recruitment by extremist groups.

Conclusion

165. The regional analysis of Somalia reveals a complex tapestry of conflict and climate security risks, with significant variations across different areas. The roles of women, youth, and elders in mediating conflicts and fostering peace are crucial, yet challenged by the environmental and social strains of climate change and resource disputes. The interconnectedness of these issues highlights the multifaceted nature of Somalia's peace and security landscape, emphasizing the need for integrated approaches to address the root causes of conflict and environmental degradation across the country.

4.4 Recommendations for GCF Proposal

166. Given these insights, the GCF proposal should include the following focused strategies:
167. **FAO Conflict Sensitivity Programme Clinic:** Fragile and conflict-affected contexts, heavily reliant on agriculture and notably impacted by conflict, especially in rural areas, necessitate a nuanced understanding for effective intervention by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The essence of being conflict-sensitive involves incorporating a deep comprehension of the local scenario into FAO interventions to mitigate negative outcomes and enhance positive community impacts. Without such sensitivity, there's a risk of undermining efforts to boost food security, livelihoods, and resilience.
168. The Programme Clinic approach, developed through field testing across several FAO decentralized offices and refined with feedback, represents both a methodology for crafting conflict-sensitive program designs and a valuable experience that builds participants' capacity for such critical thinking, with the expectation that involvement in these clinics will cultivate new, effective working practices. See Appendix 13 of the ESMF for the summary of FAO's conflict sensitivity programming approach.
169. **Trust building approaches:** In conflict resolution and peace work, particularly within the context of FAO Somalia, vertical and horizontal trust building are pivotal strategies aimed at fostering peace and reconciliation:
- **Vertical trust** building refers to the efforts made to establish trust between different levels of governance and the communities they serve. This involves creating transparent, accountable mechanisms and ensuring that the governance structures are responsive to the needs and concerns of the local population, thereby bridging the gap between authorities and civilians.

- On the other hand, **horizontal trust** building focuses on strengthening the social fabric within communities and between diverse groups. It aims at promoting mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation among various community members, overcoming historical grievances and social divides.
- For FAO Somalia, both forms of trust building (both vertical and horizontal) are crucial independently, however, the nexus where they meet is equally important. This is because there is often a disconnect between learnings coming from local interventions and policy-making at the governmental level in order to support coordinated scalability.
- Trust building approaches also help in creating a stable and peaceful environment that facilitates sustainable agricultural development, food security, and resilience against the backdrop of conflict and fragility.

170. **Stakeholder Engagement analysis** -- building on the GCF proposal mapping exercise -- to further identify specific institutions and community groups to tailor fit interventions so that tension reduction, conflict aversion and peace making opportunities are identified and integrated to the GCF initiative. The below lists 5 broad areas for consideration:

1) Engage Women and Youth:

- Design targeted programs to build the capacity of women and youth, enhancing their livelihood opportunities and enabling their active participation in peacebuilding platforms and climate resilience.
- Establish platforms for their involvement in decision-making at all levels, recognizing their potential to contribute innovative solutions, including in decision-making processes related to land use, water access and agricultural development.

2) Tailored Climate Finance Interventions:

- Conduct thorough conflict assessments that take into account the specific dynamics of each region, with a focus on the roles and needs of stakeholders, women, youth, and marginalized communities. More specifically:
 - Federal and State Government Partners (Agriculture, Livestock/Rangeland/Forestry), Environment/CC, Interior)
 - Civil Society Actors
 - Youth Groups
 - Women's Groups
 - Farmer Cooperatives
 - Water Management Groups/committees (established or new)
 - Private Sector
 - Academia
- Prioritize interventions that address the interlinked challenges of conflict, climate change, and gender inequality, ensuring that projects are designed to be flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances.

3) Food Security and Agricultural Support:

- Expand initiatives similar to previous FAO interventions (see: ProAct project) in regions identified as vulnerable to food insecurity. Focus on water resource management, the restoration of secondary and tertiary irrigation systems, and the establishment of cooperative producer groups to enhance agricultural productivity and food security.

4) Conflict-Sensitive Governance (land and water):

- Develop interventions aimed at reforming land governance, promoting the harmonization of formal, customary, and religious land tenure systems. This includes supporting the establishment of a national land policy that ensures equity in land allocation and use factoring pastoral and agro pastoral community needs.
 - Strengthen the capacity of local institutions to manage and resolve land disputes effectively. This includes providing training and support to village committees and cooperatives, emphasizing management and process optimization for enhanced cooperation with authorities and project beneficiaries.
 - Implement or reinforce community-based water management structures/groups that involve local stakeholders in planning and execution. This can include rainwater harvesting, rehabilitation of water points, and training on sustainable water use and co-communal management.
 - Foster cross-community dialogues on shared natural resources to build trust and cooperation (upstream and downstream), incorporating traditional and innovative dispute resolution mechanisms.
- 5) **Community Engagement and Empowerment:**
- Facilitate the involvement of local communities, including women and youth. This should aim to build trust and social cohesion, contributing to peaceful dispute resolution and sustainable land management practices.

171. By incorporating these strategies, the GCF proposal can not only mitigate the impacts of climate change but also contribute to resolving the deep-rooted conflicts over land and resources in Somalia, fostering a more stable and peaceful environment conducive to sustainable development.

5. Legal and institutional framework

172. This ESMF recognizes and adheres to the legal regulations and guidelines set forth by the Government of Somalia, in addition to the policies of the Green Climate Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. In situations where there may be inconsistencies between the safeguard policies of the GCF/FAO and the laws and regulations of the Government of Somalia, the framework commits to following the more stringent of these requirements.

5.1. Key national environment and social legislation, policies, strategies, and plans

5.1.1. Constitution of the Republic of Somalia

173. Environmental policy and legislation across Somali territories are currently in a phase of development, focusing on evaluating the impact of such policies on environmental preservation and the enhancement of sustainable livelihoods. The Constitution of the Republic of Somalia serves as the primary legal framework for environmental management, highlighting key articles such as **Article 25 (Environment)**, **Article 43 (Land)**, **Article 44 (Natural Resources)**, and **Article 45 (Environment)**. Article 25 guarantees every Somali the right to a safe environment, free from pollution and harmful substances, and emphasizes the equitable distribution of the country's natural resources, safeguarding against their excessive and detrimental exploitation.

174. **Article 45** advocates for the collective involvement of Somali people in the sustainable management and protection of natural resources and the environment. Meanwhile, **Article 43** offers guidelines for implementing environmental and social safeguards, despite the absence of specific legislated regulations. It also mandates the federal government to prioritize the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, urging both the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Federal Member States (FMS) to combat environmental challenges such as desertification, deforestation, and

degradation. To operationalize these principles, the FGS, in consultation with the FMS, is tasked with formulating overarching environmental policies for Somalia.

175. In response to these constitutional mandates, the Federal Government has initiated structural reforms within the environmental sector, leading to the establishment of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC). This nascent ministry is responsible for drafting National Environmental Policies, creating Environmental Quality Standards, and conducting Sectoral Environmental Assessments (SEAs), Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), and environmental audits, among other functions. Despite these advances, the necessary legal frameworks, commissions, or authorities have yet to be fully established.

5.1.2. The Ninth National Development Plan 2029 – 2024

176. The Ninth National Development Plan (NDP-9) for the period 2020-2024 serves as a holistic framework for addressing the myriad challenges impeding Somalia's path to stability and progress. Central to the plan's analysis are the intertwined issues of resource use conflicts, environmental degradation, and climate-related disasters such as droughts and floods, which collectively pose significant barriers to national development. In response, NDP-9 strategically focuses on interventions designed to yield multifaceted benefits. These targeted initiatives aim not only to stimulate economic growth but also to enhance environmental sustainability, reduce conflicts, strengthen governance, and mitigate social exclusion, thereby laying the groundwork for a more resilient and inclusive society.

177. Climate resilience emerges as a critical pillar within NDP-9, underpinning the plan's comprehensive approach to sustainable development. Acknowledging the profound threats that climate change poses to achieving its development objectives, the plan integrates climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies across its priorities. This forward-looking stance recognizes the importance of safeguarding the country against the adverse effects of climate variability and extreme weather events. By embedding climate resilience into its development strategy, NDP-9 aspires to secure a sustainable future for Somalia, ensuring that its developmental gains are robust, durable, and capable of withstanding the challenges presented by a changing climate.

5.1.3. Nationally Determined Contributions 2024 – 2030

178. The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) for Somalia, covering the period from 2024 to 2030, delineates the country's focused strategies and goals in response to climate change, emphasizing both adaptation and mitigation efforts. It serves as a comprehensive framework that identifies the key areas where Somalia seeks to enhance its resilience to climate change impacts and reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. The document is a clear articulation of Somalia's commitment to addressing the challenges posed by climate change, outlining specific initiatives that aim to safeguard its environment, economy, and communities from adverse effects.

179. Moreover, the NDC highlights the critical need for climate finance, specifying the financial resources required to effectively implement the proposed adaptation and mitigation measures. By estimating the necessary investments, Somalia seeks to mobilize support from international partners, leveraging financial assistance to achieve its climate goals. In a significant addition, the enhanced NDC integrates considerations for climate security, acknowledging the intersection between climate change impacts and security challenges. This inclusion underscores the importance of a multidimensional approach to climate action, recognizing the complex relationship between environmental sustainability and national security.

5.1.4. National Environmental Policy (2020)

180. The primary aim of this policy is to elevate the health and quality of life for Somalis and foster sustainable development by judiciously managing the nation's natural resources. The policy outlines specific goals that address current and evolving environmental challenges:

- 1) **Conservation of Natural Resources.** The goal here is to safeguard and preserve vital natural resources critical to livelihoods, economic development, and overall human well-being. It emphasizes using renewable and non-renewable resources in a way that satisfies today's needs without jeopardizing future generations' ability to fulfill theirs.
- 2) **Environmental Governance.** This objective focuses on enhancing environmental governance to guarantee the sustainable stewardship of Somalia's natural assets. It advocates for the Federal Government and member states to evolve, reconstruct, and bolster institutions for robust environmental governance, including integrating full economic, social, and environmental considerations into project planning and execution.
- 3) **Multi-stakeholder Partnerships.** The policy aims to fortify institutional frameworks at both Federal and member state levels, equipping them with the skills needed for effective environmental management. It seeks to rejuvenate environmental collaboration with neighboring nations and the broader region to support peace, bolster environmental initiatives, and facilitate knowledge exchange. Additionally, it aims to heighten environmental awareness among Somalis, fostering participatory management practices. Finally, it strives to increase resources for environmental conservation through collaborative efforts among local communities, governmental bodies, academia, investors, and international partners, leveraging finance, technology, expertise, indigenous knowledge, and social capital for mutual benefit.

5.1.5. National Adaptation Program of Action on Climate Change (2013)

181. The National Adaptation Program of Action on Climate Change (NAPA) 2013 reflects Somalia's proactive stance on climate adaptation within the agriculture sector and related areas, a critical issue given the population's reliance on climate-sensitive agricultural methods. Somalia has endured the harsh realities of climate change for decades, with recurring droughts, variable rainfall, increasing temperatures, and flooding that have heavily impacted agricultural livelihoods. To align with development goals aimed at boosting food and nutrition security and fostering sustainable agriculture, Somalia recognizes the importance of integrating strategic, climate-resilient approaches into its agricultural systems.
182. Climate change poses a global challenge, with its effects felt acutely in sub-Saharan Africa, including Somalia, due to pronounced climate variability and constrained adaptation capabilities. The phenomenon demands a collaborative response that spans beyond national frontiers, necessitating a concerted effort at both regional and international levels to devise viable solutions. The NAPA addresses the critical need to reduce climate change vulnerabilities, particularly affecting the 65% of Somalia's populace dependent on pastoralism and agriculture. These sectors face threats from decreased yields due to erratic weather patterns, increased temperatures, and the dire impacts of natural disasters. The NAPA, developed through a collaborative and participatory approach led by the Ministry of Natural Resources alongside partners from Puntland, Somaliland, international funds, and UN programs, sets out urgent adaptation actions across three key areas. This initiative demonstrates Somalia's dedication to mitigating climate change's effects on its most susceptible populations, enhancing food security, and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources.

5.1.6. National Environmental Management Act (2024)

183. The National Environmental Management Act (2024) is a pivotal piece of legislation designed to ensure a clean and healthy environment for all Somali citizens. It sets forth measures to prevent pollution, safeguard natural resources, and champion the principles of sustainable development across the country. By establishing a comprehensive framework for environmental protection, this act underscores the government's commitment to balancing ecological preservation with the nation's developmental needs. Furthermore, it provides a legal basis for the implementation of practices and policies aimed at maintaining environmental integrity and promoting the well-being of current and future generations. This act represents a significant stride towards achieving environmental sustainability and resilience in Somalia.

5.1.7. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Regulations (2024)

184. The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Regulations (2024) establish a comprehensive set of procedures for managing the entire lifecycle of applications for environmental authorization. This includes the preparation, evaluation, submission, and processing of applications, as well as the final decision-making process for activities that require an environmental and social impact assessment. The primary goal of these regulations is to prevent or minimize harmful effects on the environment and society while enhancing positive outcomes, including those related to climate change adaptation and mitigation. By ensuring thorough assessment and oversight, the regulations aim to promote sustainable development practices that respect both ecological balance and social well-being. Ultimately, these regulations serve as a critical tool for integrating environmental and social considerations into the planning and execution of development projects in Somalia.

5.1.8. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) 2016-2025

185. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Somalia, spanning 2016 to 2025, underscores the critical importance of biodiversity for the nation's species diversity, agriculture, and forestry sectors. This strategic framework aims to foster a shared understanding among stakeholders at various levels of governance throughout the country, promoting a synergistic approach to environmental conservation. By facilitating coordinated efforts among partners, the NBSAP ensures the provision of essential ecosystem services and supports life-sustaining activities.

186. Biodiversity's intricate relationship with the economy plays a significant role, particularly in enhancing watershed management and nutrient cycling, which are vital for supporting Somalia's livestock and agricultural productivity. Ecosystem goods and services (EGS), such as energy sources like charcoal, are highlighted for their crucial contributions. Moreover, the strategy recognizes the role of these ecosystem services in bolstering the resilience of communities against droughts and anthropogenic disasters, illustrating the comprehensive approach the NBSAP takes toward sustainable environmental management and disaster mitigation.

5.1.9. National Food Security and Nutrition Policy (2020)

187. The National Food Security and Nutrition Policy (2020) is dedicated to improving the availability and accessibility of quality nutrition services across Somalia, prioritizing the needs of the most vulnerable populations, including women and children. This strategic approach encompasses efforts to bolster both local and national capacities of professionals working within the nutrition sector, aiming to elevate the standard of health service delivery throughout the country. By focusing on these key areas, the policy endeavors to ensure that every Somali has access to the nutrition needed for a healthy life, recognizing the foundational role of good nutrition in overall well-being and development.

188. Furthermore, the policy explicitly acknowledges the intricate relationship between food and nutrition security and the evolving challenges of climate change. It outlines specific interventions designed to mitigate the adverse effects of climate variability on food systems, aiming to build resilience among communities and ecosystems. Through these targeted actions, the National Food Security and Nutrition Policy (2020) demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of food security and nutrition challenges in Somalia, offering a forward-looking framework for sustainable solutions that address both immediate needs and long-term environmental sustainability.

5.1.10. National Fertilizer Policy (2019)

189. The National Fertilizer Policy (2019) acknowledges the significant impact that improper fertilizer use can have on the climate system. It advocates for targeted policy interventions aimed at mitigating these effects, emphasizing the importance of training and raising awareness among stakeholders. Furthermore, the policy calls for the development of guidelines to ensure the implementation of safety standards in the use of fertilizers. By promoting responsible management and application of fertilizers,

the policy seeks to enhance agricultural productivity while safeguarding environmental health. This strategic approach underscores the commitment to balancing agricultural development needs with environmental conservation efforts.

5.1.11. National Pesticide Policy (2019)

190. The National Pesticide Policy (2019) acknowledges the adverse environmental impacts stemming from the improper application of pesticides, particularly on water resources and biodiversity. With a focus on promoting environmental sustainability, the policy emphasizes the need to educate farmers on best practices for pesticide use. It also advocates for the development and implementation of guidelines that are aligned with climate change mitigation efforts. By integrating these measures, the policy aims to reduce the negative effects of pesticide use while supporting sustainable agricultural practices. This initiative reflects a broader commitment to protecting the environment and contributing to a climate-resilient future.

5.1.12. Livestock Sector Development Strategy (2019)

191. The Livestock Sector Development Strategy (2019) underscores the critical importance of livestock to Somalia's economy, accounting for 43 percent of the nation's GDP and providing essential employment and livelihoods for a significant portion of the population. Yet, this vital sector is increasingly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and recurrent droughts, which jeopardize the long-term sustainability of livestock production. In response to these challenges, a range of strategies and policies have been formulated, aiming to mitigate the impacts of drought, address water scarcity, and alleviate social unrest. Despite these proactive measures, the capacity of public services to adequately support livestock owners remains constrained, further compounding the poverty experienced within this community. The sector's resilience is further tested by issues related to natural resource management and the need for skill development in value-added programming to bolster sector robustness and community livelihoods.

192. The years 2016 and 2017 marked a particularly difficult period for the livestock sector, with losses and damages estimated at approximately 2 billion dollars. However, the subsequent period has witnessed a commendable recovery and revitalization within the sector, marked by an uptick in livestock populations and enhanced fodder production nationwide. This positive trend signals not only the sector's gradual recuperation but also underscores the resilience and adaptability of the communities dependent on livestock for their livelihoods. Such recovery accentuates the sector's inherent potential for growth and sustainability, contingent upon targeted support and strategic investments. Prioritizing the fortification of the livestock sector—through improved public services, enhanced resource management practices, and the initiation of value-added programs—is imperative for diminishing vulnerabilities and promoting enduring, sustainable livelihoods among Somalia's livestock owners.

5.1.13. Agriculture Strategy Plan (2016-2020)

193. The Agriculture Strategy Plan (2016-2020) for Somalia is a comprehensive document structured into various sections, each serving a distinct purpose but collectively aimed at guiding the prioritization efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture at the federal level. It delineates the responsibilities of the ministry and outlines its involvement in activities pertinent to its mandate. Additionally, the strategy incorporates numerous action plans and indicators, designed to be achieved over a five-year period from 2016 to 2020.

194. The primary goal of this strategic plan is to enhance the agricultural sector's contribution to the livelihoods of the farming community and the economic revival of Somalia. This objective is to be realized through the reconstruction of the Ministry of Agriculture and other relevant bodies, the improvement and rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure, the increase of local agricultural production, and the bolstering of the ministry's capacity for resource mobilization. The agriculture sector, encompassing farming, livestock, and fisheries, plays a pivotal role in Somalia's economy, crucial for food security, job creation, income generation, and earning foreign exchange. However, the

sector faces significant challenges, including a decrease in per capita production due to civil unrest, inadequate agricultural infrastructure, the impacts of drought and flooding, scarcity of agricultural inputs and markets, and the absence of a conducive environment. Additionally, the Ministry of Agriculture and other agricultural institutions are hindered by capacity limitations, and the country lacks essential policies, rules, regulations, and legislative frameworks to support sectoral development.

5.1.14. Draft National Gender Policy of Somalia

195. The Draft National Gender Policy of Somalia establishes a comprehensive framework designed to steer the development of legislation, policy formulation, implementation, and various initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and ensuring equal rights and opportunities for both men and women in every sphere of life. This policy serves as a cornerstone for integrating gender considerations into Somalia's legislative and policy-making processes, emphasizing the importance of creating an equitable society where all individuals can thrive regardless of gender.
196. Developed in the wake of a devastating civil war that shattered Somalia's societal, political, and economic foundations, the National Gender Policy addresses the distinct impacts of the conflict on men and women. The war led to a loss of state protection, livelihoods, and access to social services for both genders. However, it also resulted in a significant shift in gender roles, with many women assuming the role of primary breadwinners for their families, thereby ensuring the survival of their household members. Despite taking on these critical roles, women remain largely marginalized from the decision-making process. Addressing gender-based discrimination is thus identified as a crucial step towards achieving Somalia's goals of recovery, peace, and sustainable development in the post-conflict era.

5.1.15. Somaliland laws and legislations

197. The Constitution of Somaliland, established in 2001, serves as the foundational legal framework for the territory's environmental management. It prioritizes the conservation and protection of the environment as critical to societal well-being, as articulated in **Article 18**. This article mandates that development projects adhere to constitutional requirements to maintain a clean and healthy environment, underscoring the state's commitment to environmental stewardship. Additionally, **Article 12** delineates the responsibilities regarding public assets and natural resources, asserting the central government's duty to manage, explore, and utilize the country's natural resources, with legislation defining the optimal exploitation and protection methods.
198. In 2014, Somaliland further reinforced its environmental governance by enacting the Environmental Management Act, which introduces environmental impact assessments (EIA) among other environmental standards and norms. Following this, the National Environment Policy (NEP) of 2015, formulated by the Ministry of Environment and Rural Development, outlines strategies for the sustainable management of natural resources. Aimed at safeguarding these assets for present and future generations, the NEP integrates the interconnections between poverty reduction, food security, and national development goals. The policy underscores the importance of creating opportunities for improved living standards without compromising environmental integrity. It promotes sustainable development practices, community involvement, knowledge sharing, environmental education, and gender equality, tapping into Somaliland's potential for sustainable progress.

5.1.16. Puntland laws and legislations

199. The legislative and policy framework in Puntland is developing, showing notable advancements in environmental governance, particularly when contrasted with the broader Somali context. The Puntland Constitution, especially through **Article 96**, highlights the critical importance of environmental conservation, emphasizing measures to combat deforestation, soil erosion, and pollution. It explicitly bans the export of charcoal and the trade in endangered flora and fauna, while also addressing the issue of unsustainable development in rural areas.

200. The National Environmental Policy of 2015 sets out the principal directives for environmental and natural resource management in Puntland, streamlining administrative regulations to address any gaps or inconsistencies with prior policies. It advocates for the adoption of environmental assessment tools, such as Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Strategic Environmental Assessments, to guide sustainable development. The Ministry for Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) in Puntland plays a pivotal role, working alongside the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) to forge strategies for climate change adaptation, early warning systems, and enhancing drought resilience. Underpinning these efforts is a comprehensive legal framework that includes the Environmental Policy (2014), Environmental Management Act (2016), and various specific policies and strategic plans targeting climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste management, and rangeland management, all aimed at fostering a sustainable and resilient environmental future for Puntland.

5.2. International Conventions signed and ratified by Somalia

201. **The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)**. The primary purpose of the Convention is to establish methods to minimize global warming and in particular the emission of greenhouse gases. The Convention was adopted in 1992 and came into force in 1994. Somalia acceded to the Convention in 2009. Somalia ratified the Kyoto agreement in 2010 and the Paris agreement in 2016.

202. **United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)**. The Convention has three main goals including which are, the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources. Somalia acceded to the Convention in September 2009.

203. **Convention on International Trade Against Endangered Species (CITES)**. The convention aims to protect endangered plants and animals. Somalia signed the Convention in 1985 and ratified it in 1986. Its current status is that of accession.

204. **Vienna Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer**. The Vienna Convention was an intergovernmental negotiation for an international agreement to phase out ozone depleting substance in March 1985. It ended in the adoption of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. The Convention encourages intergovernmental cooperation on research, systematic observation of the ozone layer, monitoring of CFC production, and the exchange of information. Somalia ratified the Convention in 2001, and its current status is that of accession.

205. **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (2002)**. The Convention combats desertification in those countries that experience serious droughts and/or desertification. Somalia ratified the Convention in 2002, and its current status is that of accession.

206. **Convention on the Rights of the Child**. The Convention on the Rights of the Child from 1989 is the most comprehensive compilation of international legal standards for the protection of the human rights of children. It acknowledges children as individuals with rights and responsibilities according to their age and development, as well as members of a family or community. This includes non-discrimination, the best interest of the child, the right to life, survival and development and the right to participation. Somalia ratified the Convention in 2015.

207. **Constitution of the International Labour Organization**. The constitutional principle is that universal and lasting peace can be established if it is based on social justice. The ILO has generated such hallmarks of industrial society as the eight-hour work day, maternity protection, child labour laws, and a range of other principles. Somalia has been a member of the ILO since 1960.

208. **ILO Convention 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labour**. Ratification of this Convention makes a country commit itself to taking immediate action to prohibit and eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Some predefined worst forms of child labour include sale of a child, trafficking of children, forced or compulsory labour, commercial exploitation of children, prostitution or the production of pornography, and work by its nature that is likely to harm the health, safety and morals of children. The Convention was ratified by Somalia in 2014.

209. **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.** The Convention is a Human Rights treaty that sets out the civil, political, economic, social, health and cultural rights of children. It defines a child as any human being under the age of 18 unless the age of majority is attained earlier under national legislation. The Convention was ratified by Somalia in 2015.
210. **Forced Labour Convention (1930/no. 29).** The key objective of the Convention is to suppress the use of forced labour in all its forms. It defines forced labour as 'all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily'. The Convention has been in force in Somalia since 1960.
211. **Rotterdam Convention.** This is a multilateral treaty that came into effectiveness in 2004. The purpose is to promote shared responsibilities in relation to importation of hazardous chemicals. The convention promotes open exchange of information and calls on exporters of hazardous chemicals to use proper labelling, include directions on safe handling, and inform purchasers of any known restrictions or bans. Signatory nations can decide whether to allow or ban the importation of chemicals listed in the treaty, and exporting countries are obliged to make sure that producers within their jurisdiction comply. Some types of asbestos are listed as banned under this treaty, but Chrysotile asbestos is not yet banned though there is global discussions to include it on the listed chemicals. Somalia acceded the Convention in 2010.
212. **Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW 1981).** The CEDAW affirms that gender equality is a precursor for development and peace. It establishes legal standards for the attainment of gender equality through the elimination of discrimination against women in all aspects of political, social, economic and cultural life. It highlights the importance of equality and equal opportunity in political and public life as well as education, health and employment. Ratifying Governments are required to set in place measures to enable and expedite gender equality in law and fact as well as confronting the underlying social political inequalities that perpetrate asymmetrical power relations based on gender. Although FGS is yet to ratify CEDAW, although the Cabinet has approved it subject to ratification by parliament.
213. **Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).** Somalia has signed but not ratified the Protocol.
214. **Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden Environment (1985) (Jeddah Convention).** The Convention aims to conserve integrated ecosystems of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aqaba, Gulf of Suez, Sues Canal to its end on the Mediterranean. Countries signed this convention undertake appropriate measures to conserve the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden environment, including prevent, abate and combat marine pollution from all sources. Somalia signed the convention in 1982 and ratified it in 1988.
215. **United Nation's Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982) (UNCLOS).** This international agreement defines the rights and responsibilities of nations with respect to their use of the world's oceans, establishing guidelines for businesses, the environment, and the management of marine natural resources. Somalia ratified the convention in 1989.
216. **Convention for the protection, Management and Development for the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention).** The convention provides a platform for governments, civil society, and the private sector to work together for the sustainable management and use of the marine and coastal environment. The convention was signed by Somalia in 1985, ratified in 1988 and has entered into force in 1996.

5.3. Relevant FAO and GCF policies

5.3.1. GCF Environmental and Social Safeguards

217. In carrying out its mandate the GCF has committed to manage environmental and social risks and impacts and improve outcomes of all GCF-financed activities effectively and equitably. The GCF adopted the International Financial Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards on Environmental and

Social Sustainability as their interim framework. The IFC Performance standards are comprised of 8 standards that cover the main environmental and social considerations that must be safeguarded when designing and implementing a project or program: assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts; labor and working conditions; resource efficiency and pollution prevention; community health, safety, and security; land acquisition and involuntary resettlement; biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources; Indigenous Peoples; and cultural heritage. Moreover, the GCF has developed and adopted a series of policies that all accredited entities shall comply with:

- **GCF Policy on the Protection of Whistle blowers and Witness (2018)**: to empower GCF project related persons to report suspicions of wrongdoing in good faith and without fear of retaliation so that the GCF can effectively protect its interests, resources and mission.
- **GCF Gender Policy (2019)**: reinforces the responsiveness of GCF to the culturally diverse context of gender equality to better address and account for the links between gender equality and climate change.
- **GCF Revised Environmental and Social Policy (2021)**: requires that the accredited entities provide and implement the environmental and social management system to manage the environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the activities, allow meaningful and inclusive multi-stakeholder consultation and engagement throughout the lifecycle of activities and that the activities proposed for GCF financing are properly screened, assigned appropriate environmental and social risk categories and that the environmental and social risks and impacts are properly and sufficiently assessed.
- **GCF Revised Policy on the Prevention and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (2021)**: sets clear obligations for GCF-project related persons to prevent and respond to SEAH and to refrain from condoning, encouraging, participating in, or engaging in SEAH.
- **GCF Policy on Prohibited Activities (2019)**: prohibits GCF-project related persons to engage in: corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, collusive, or obstructive practices; or abuse, etc. to maintain the highest levels of integrity, accountability and efficiency.
- **GCF Indigenous People Policy**: recognizes that Indigenous Peoples often have identities and aspirations that are distinct from mainstream groups in national societies and are disadvantaged by traditional models of mitigation, adaptation, and development. In many instances, they are among the most economically marginalized and vulnerable segments of the population, and in many cases, they do not receive equitable access to project benefits, or benefits are not devised or delivered in a form that is culturally appropriate. The economic, social, and legal status of Indigenous Peoples frequently limit their capacity to defend their rights to, and interests in, land, territories, and natural and cultural resources, and may restrict their ability to participate in and benefit from development initiatives and climate change actions.

5.3.2. FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards

218. FAO is committed to mainstreaming sustainability in its programming and therefore has developed and adopted a series of tools and systems to improve the environmental and social performance of their activities and projects, strengthening the inclusiveness, resilience, sustainability, and accountability of its programming. Recently (2022) FAO adopted the Framework for Environmental and Social Management (FESM), which replaces the Environmental and Social Management Guidelines (adopted in 2015) and is complementary to the Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization’s Environmental and Social Standards Guidelines. The FESM establishes environmental and social performance requirements for FAO programming. It includes key elements of a human rights-based approach with the goal to ensure that people and the environment are protected from any potential adverse impacts of FAO programs and projects, that all stakeholders have ample opportunities to actively participate in the activities of programs and projects and have access to effective channels to voice their concerns about them.

219. FAO E&S framework is underpinned by nine environmental and social standards (ESS), which reflect the organization's commitment to mainstream social and environmental sustainability in programs and projects including: innovative process of climate change and disaster risk screening to identify potential risks, mitigation and resilience measures; requirements to conserve and restore renewable natural resources and biodiversity; protect animal welfare; foster resilient livelihoods; manage wastes and non-pesticide hazardous materials; promote resource efficiency; protect community health and promote decent jobs; strengthen requirements for dealing with gender-based violence including the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA); respect Indigenous Peoples living in voluntary isolation; and enhance accountability, conflict resolution and grievance mechanisms:

- **ESS1 Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources** supports the objectives of the international convention on biological diversity (CBD), the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. In addition, ESS 1 elaborates a range of actions to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biodiversity, ecosystems, and genetic resources.
- **ESS 2 Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management:** recognizes that resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management are core elements of a sustainable development agenda. For this reason, FAO programs and projects shall meet good international practice in this regard. The mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to the impacts of climate change are essential to increasing efficiency in the use of resources and building resilience.
- **ESS 3 Climate change and disaster risk reduction:** aims at reducing and managing potential risks that may arise from climate change, and other multiple and often simultaneous hazards. It also provides guidance on how to reduce risks and increase the adaptive capacities of threatened and affected communities and their agri-food systems.
- **ESS 4 Decent work:** support the implementation of internationally accepted labor standards. prioritizing decent work. This standard recognizes that promoting decent work, preventing the use of child labor, exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labor is essential to achieving food security and reducing poverty. Furthermore, in includes the measures to ensure occupational health and safety are addressed in ESS 4 – Decent Work.
- **ESS 5 Community health, safety, and security:** The requirements in ESS 5 address the need to avoid health and safety risks and the impacts of the health and safety hazards that may arise from the activities undertaken by FAO programs and projects, and where avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate these risks and impacts. Particular attention is given to marginalized, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.
- **ESS 6 Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence:** aims at ensuring that the design and implementation of FAO programs and projects do not create or exacerbate existing gender inequalities and discrimination reflecting the Organization's alignment with international frameworks on gender equality and women and girls' empowerment. ESS 6 is consistent with the principles set out in the United Nations Development Cooperation Framework and it's aligned with the overarching principle, 'leave no one behind', that unifies all United Nations programming efforts.
- **ESS 7 Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement:** FAO shall seek to avoid involuntary resettlement in activities it supports or implements wherever possible. However, FAO may be called upon to support activities that lead to involuntary resettlement shall be undertaken only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. responses to climate change and emergencies). Such activities should be carried out in accordance with the principles of the VGGT160 and for the purpose of promoting the general welfare. Appropriate forms of compensation, assistance, legal protection, and information will be provided to the affected individuals and communities.
- **ESS 8 Indigenous People:** recognizes that traditions and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples provide opportunities to overcome many of the challenges we are facing. Indigenous knowledge

and food systems are of particular significance in the face of increasing food demand and adaptation to climate change. ESS 8 follows international legal agreements, including the United Nations 2007 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the 1989 ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention (No. 169), the FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (2010)

- **ESS 9 Cultural heritage:** aims to facilitate the preservation, protection, and promotion of cultural heritage in FAO programming in a manner consistent with UNESCO cultural heritage conventions, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and any other national or international legal instruments that might have a bearing on the use of cultural heritage. FAO has pioneered international recognition of the concept of farmers' rights, which are linked to the traditional knowledge of farmers and indigenous and local communities. The ITPGRFA is the first international legally binding instrument that endorses these rights and acknowledges farmers' contributions to the conservation and development of plant genetic resources.

220. Furthermore, FAO has a set of policies set in place to support the implementation of its environmental and social safeguard.

- **Framework for Environmental and Social Management (FESM):** establishes environmental and social performance requirements for FAO programming. It includes key elements of a human rights-based approach with the goal to ensure that people and the environment are protected from any potential adverse impacts of FAO programs and projects, that all stakeholders have ample opportunities to actively participate in the activities of programs and projects and have access to effective channels to voice their concerns about them. In addition, this framework comes to enforces FAO zero-tolerance approach to sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment, and seek to identify and address any risk of potential exposure of affected people to gender-based violence (GBV) and other abuse that may occur in connection with any of its supported activities.
- **FAO Accountability Policy (2014):** FAO is committed to designing and operating its approach to accountability, based on FAO's core values of commitment, respect for all, integrity and transparency, and according to the following principles: (i) Focus on FAO's purpose and outcomes for beneficiaries and partners; (ii) Define clear roles and responsibilities; (iii) Take informed and transparent decisions and communicate clearly, providing the basis for acting with a focus on outcomes and within clearly defined roles; (iv) Put FAO's values into practice through consistent application of a shared ethos and culture in the development of policy and the behavior of employees; (v) Engage with stakeholders to make accountability real; (vi) Establish a culture of consequences - to be meaningful, accountability must be felt.
- **FAO whistle blower protection policy:** (administrative circular N°2021/10) applying to any FAO personnel when internal or external reporting according to the consideration of the circular. This Policy is aligned with best practices across the United Nations common system and aims to foster a culture of trust and ethical conduct in the Organization.
- **FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030:** strives to achieve equality between women and men in sustainable agriculture and rural development for the elimination of hunger and poverty.
- FAO Protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (PSAE) N° 2013/27. The principles of integrity, professionalism, respect for human rights and the dignity of all peoples underpin FAO's commitment to preventing and addressing acts of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)
- **FAO Policy on the prevention of harassment, sexual harassment, and abuse of authority:** N° 2015/03 (2015) and FAO policy on sexual harassment (13 February 2019) which states Sexual Harassment in all its forms is contrary to the United Nations Charter, the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules of the Organization and the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service.

- **FAO Policy against fraud and other corrupt practices:** N° 2015/08 (2015) Fraud and other corrupt practices pose a grave threat to the effective implementation of the Organization's policies and objectives.

221. Correspondence between GCF and FAO safeguards: As well as the GCF, all FAO projects follow the risk mitigation hierarchy to ensure that any environmental and social risks and potential adverse impacts are anticipated and avoid, or where avoidance is not possible, minimize, and, where residual impacts remain, compensate/offset for risks and impacts to the community or the environment. As an accredited entity to the GCF, FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS 1-9) are aligned with the GCF-IFC performance standards.

Table 4 Performance Standards & corresponding FAO Environmental and Social Safeguard

IFC Performance Standards (PS)	FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards
PS 1 – Assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts	ESS 3 - Climate change and disaster risk reduction ESS 6 – Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence
PS2 – Labor and working conditions	ESS 4 – Decent work
PS3 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention	ESS 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management (covers pest & pesticide management)
PS4 – Community, health, safety, and security	ESS 5 – Community health, safety, and security
PS5 – Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement	ESS 7 – Land tenure, displacement, and Resettlement
PS6 – Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources	ESS1 - Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources (covers plant and animal genetic resources)
PS7 – Indigenous peoples	ESS 8 – Indigenous peoples
PS8 – Cultural heritage	ESS9 – Cultural heritage

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

222. **Consistency of GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy and the FAO's ESS 8 on Indigenous Peoples:** GCF and FAO safeguards frameworks include particular attention to the rights, needs and situations of Indigenous Peoples, with specific provisions, tools and instruments for projects that may involve or affect Indigenous Peoples or communities. The table below includes the key elements as well as points of consistency of the two frameworks:

Table 5 Comparison of GCF and FAO's Indigenous Peoples safeguard policies

Topic	GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy	FAO's ESS 9 on Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage
Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)	There is a need to ensure that meaningful consultation has been undertaken and FPIC has been properly sought, with evidence provided.	Before adopting and implementing projects and programs that may affect Indigenous Peoples, an FPIC process followed, and consent given by the indigenous community.
Risk Management	There is a need to implement a management system to manage the risks and impacts associated with the project activities. There is a need to ensure that activities proposed for GCF financing	There is a need to carry out screening of risks, including answering "trigger" questions. The levels of risks are defined as follows: LOW: At project assessment there are no Indigenous Peoples in the project area

	are properly screened, assigned appropriate risk categories, and that the risks and impacts are properly and sufficiently assessed	<p>MODERATE: There are Indigenous Peoples in the project area and/or project activities could affect Indigenous Peoples outside the project area</p> <p>HIGH: There are Indigenous Peoples in the project area or outside the project area who are adversely affected by the proposed project activities</p> <p>The risk level of a project will be determined by: (i) the results of the project assessment undertaken by the FAO technical units and independent external experts as part of an environmental and social assessment; and (ii) the outcome of the FPIC process determined by the indigenous community (ies).</p>
Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP)	Where there are potential impacts on Indigenous Peoples, accredited entities must prepare an IPP.	In those circumstances when a proposed project may be considered high risk IPP will be prepared following the results of the FPIC.
Monitoring	Monitoring and reporting on the progress and performance of GCF-financed activities to GCF and its stakeholders will take place throughout the implementation of the GCF financed activities, in accordance with this Policy and any relevant plan.	Participatory and transparent monitoring arrangements under the principle of FPIC will be put in place, wherein Indigenous Peoples will jointly monitor project implementation with FAO.
Grievance Redress Mechanism	There is a need to ensure that all grievance mechanisms associated with GCF activities are effective in addressing issues raised by Indigenous Peoples and are accessible, fair, transparent and culturally appropriate.	An adequate redress mechanism for Indigenous Peoples is a component of the IPP.

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

223. **The project is intended to deliver positive outcomes for both the environment and society.** Classified under the moderate risk category "B," the planned activities of the project, as detailed in Chapter 2, are expected to engage a series of Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies, ESS1, ESS2, ESS4, ESS5, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8. To ensure compliance with these policies, specific safeguard measures have been delineated in Table 6.

224. According to FAO E&S safeguards, this ESMF adhered to, and its sections shall be used as guidance for the preparation of ESMPs. The ESMF – including the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and the Gender Action Plan (GAP) - will be shared with and explained to stakeholders, for their feedback and validation. This will take place as part of the stakeholder engagement process, throughout project implementation

Table 6 FAO environmental and social standards main considerations

Safeguard policy	Triggered	Safeguard instruments & mitigation measures
ESS1: Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ List of non-eligible activities (Appendix 1 of ESMF) ▪ Biodiversity Management Planning Framework (Appendix 7)/ Biodiversity Management Plan <p>The project aims at sustainable intensification. No land conversion will take place (expansion of agriculture frontier, clearing of native forest or similar activities, increases in areas under cultivation within protected areas (PA).</p>

		<p>The project will work mainly with local/native breeds and species sourced from local or national markets where available. All genetic material for plants and animal (seedling/planting material, species, breeds) should be free from pests and diseases.</p>
<p>ESS2: Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ Pest Management Plan (see Appendix 3 for the guidance) ▪ Waste Management Plan (see Appendix 10) ▪ Construction management plan (Appendix 12) (rehabilitation/renovation) <p>Solid or water waste, which will be generated during the infrastructure construction works period and not the whole project timespan, will be managed by Waste Management Plan and Construction Management Plan. The rehabilitation activities will be designed in a way to ensure minimum permanent soil damage of the productive soil.</p> <p>Practices and technologies promoted by the project aims at improving efficiency in the use of natural resources (water, land, soil, energy) through inclusive and participatory approach of women, man, youth, elders, PLWD and Indigenous Peoples. The project promotes the use of local or native breeds and species (for livestock, poultry and planting/seedling material), IPM to reduce use and dependency of agrochemicals (Refer to Appendix 3 of ESMF) and integrates sustainable soil and water management.</p> <p>Implementing agro-ecological approach at landscape level will ensure the sustainable management of natural resources, avoiding pollution and degradation of the environment, protecting human and animal health, properly manage water, soil and biodiversity. Additionally there will be no pesticide procurement under the project, and highly hazardous pesticides (HHP) will not be used in the project areas.</p>
<p>ESS3: Climate change and disaster risk reduction</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-Eligible activities (Appendix 1) <p>The Project already incorporates findings from the climate risk assessment and will address risks related to climate change and disaster by enhancing adaptive capacity of communities, rehabilitating ecosystems and irrigation infrastructure and improving access to climate information services.</p> <p>In order to avoid dependencies on the external resources in the post project situation, the project will internalize the capacities including sustainability planning that enable the beneficiaries to sustain and manage the project investment self-reliantly.</p>
<p>ESS4: Decent work</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ Labour Management Plan (Appendix 8) ▪ Occupational Health and Safety Plan (Appendix 9) ▪ Construction management plan (rehabilitation/renovation) <p>The project promotes compliance with national and international employment and labor regulations and guidelines. All employment relationships will be based on the principle of equal opportunity and fair treatment and will not discriminate, particularly as women, youth and minorities are targeted. Training and sensitization campaigns will be carried for farmers/FOs on Occupational, Health, and Safety (OHS) child labour and appropriate work for youth. The project supports knowledge generation and will generate youth/women opportunities in selected value chains and support rural youth/women/PLWD access to information and productive resources. The project will ensure that children under aged are not employed, adequate and verifiable mechanisms for age verification in recruitment procedures will be set. Project will conduct sensitization</p>

		<p>training on safe, decent rural employment and age-appropriate work, given that youth often assist with the farming work.</p> <p>The project will carry out rehabilitation/renovation activities including restoring Sabuun Barrage and Supply canal in Jowhar, upgrade secondary and tertiary canals to resilience standards and deploy water-saving technologies. The project will also support the rehabilitation of market infrastructures, including rural roads, cattle corridors to ensure that access is un-interrupted even during climate extreme. This will be done through FAO procurement of contractors, nevertheless the beneficiaries will be involved in the overall decision making process regarding planning, execution, monitoring and subsequent O&M.</p>
ESS5: Community health, safety, and security	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ESMP ▪ Zero tolerance of SEAH ▪ Labour Management Plan (Appendix 8) ▪ Occupational Health and Safety Plan (Appendix 9) <p>The project adopts a Zero tolerance of SEAH and GBV, all project stakeholders will participate on sensitization campaigns and training on SEAH & GBV. Additional risks for the community are related to exposure of waterborne diseases, vector-borne diseases, zoonotic diseases, food-borne diseases from construction and agro-facilities. The project activities will follow recommendation established by industry-specific best management practices for management of risks related to community health and safety. Design, construction, and operation will follow national legal requirements and good international practice, ensure inclusive engagement to avoid increasing inequalities.</p>
ESS6: Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF/ ESMP will include measures to facilitate social inclusion and enhance gender equality, and safeguard against SEAH. ▪ Gender Action Plan (GAP: Annex 8 of FP) ▪ Zero tolerance of SEAH <p>Project design and implementation incorporates gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence as an integrated element, a Gender Analysis and Action Plan, with specific gender-targeted activities and indicators was developed (Annex 8). The project's GRM will be accessible for all project-related complaints, including SEAH-specific complaints. The GRM will be survivor-centered and gender responsive, and will have specific procedures for SEAH, including confidential reporting and safe and ethical documenting.</p>
ESS7: Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESIA/ESMF ▪ Project will employ Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests and incorporate land tenure assessment as part of the landscape/watershed strategies. <p>The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not be used for land acquisition. No set aside land or additional conservation areas will be established as part of the project. Reforestation/rehabilitation areas will take place mainly on public or community land (executed by region administrations) or interventions on private land (executed by communities with funding from the project) and will focus on areas where such interventions can facilitate or leverage improved productivity through ecosystem services. Proposed activities will mostly imply the involvement of districts on a purely voluntary and demand-driven basis.</p>
ESS8: Indigenous Peoples	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESMF and Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), and subsequent ESMP and Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) ▪ FPIC will be carried out before any project activity is implemented, and it will consider the active participation of Indigenous Peoples

		<p>living in the project area, as well as those Indigenous Peoples (nomadic pastors and hunter gatherers that depend on the resources of the project area of influence).</p> <p>The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not be used for land acquisition or resources. Some of the project activities could affect IPs and their livelihood (e.g., loss of access to grazing land, interference with pastoralist livelihood), if these groups are excluded from planning and decision-making processes (e.g. indigenous groups are represented in project main committees). Any involuntary restrictions on land use and access to natural resources is subject to traditional ownership or under customary use and will be addressed by ensuring IPs rights are respected and that they are involved in the development, implementation, and monitoring of the project and in the decision- making processes. The project will use a participatory approach to design the Landscape Management Plan making sure to include all social categories. Furthermore, the same categories will be targeted for Value Chain Development and Agriculture and Livestock support.</p>
ESS9: Cultural heritage	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-Eligible activities (Appendix 1) <p>The project will not invest in areas identified as cultural heritage sites. These include shrines, village squares, etc. The region specific ESMPs (regional ESMPs for all six project regions will be developed at the project inception level) will ensure that the scoping and screening exercises caption these kinds of issues.</p>

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

225. An exclusion (non-eligibility) list is provided in **Appendix 1**, which details on activities that will not be financed under the project.
226. **ESS 1 – Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources:** The activities promoted by the project are expected to generate substantial positive environmental benefits from the scaling up of climate-resilient land use practices, increasing not only resilience of ecosystems and local communities to climate change, but will also reduce land degradation, maintain/enhance biodiversity, and ecosystem functionality through an ecosystem-based approach. Considering that some agricultural and forestry activities could take place near critical habitat or natural protected areas, there are restrictions regarding the type of activities that can be financed/promoted by the project to avoid any potential significant adverse impact on biodiversity or habitats (**refer to Appendix 1 Non-eligibility List**).
227. **ESS2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management:** Practices and technologies promoted by the project aims at improving efficiency in the use of natural resources (water, land, soil, energy) through inclusive and participatory approach of women, man, youth, elders, PLWD and Indigenous Peoples. Project incorporates integrated water management approach, including water conservation measures, restoration of water catchment areas and watershed management; conservation and restoration of riparian zones; development of several small-scale irrigation schemes; promoting water-saving irrigation technologies (drip irrigation, water-saving equipment, etc.); rehabilitation of existing irrigation schemes; promoting the rational use of industrial water (reuse, cascade use, water-saving processes and equipment); promote water and rainwater harvesting technologies/structure; and raising public awareness on efficient water use. In terms of energy, the Project promotes the use of solar energy and energy-efficient machinery and equipment (e.g., tractors, ventilation systems, drying and storage systems, cooling devices). Considering that the project will promote watershed management practices, restoration of water catchments and watershed management, together with the installation/use of efficient irrigation systems (improve water efficiency); it is not expected that the project will cause a fall of the water table; due to the practices promoted, potential increase in groundwater recharge and improve conditions for land use is expected. Project also support sustainable soil management practices, conservation agriculture, integrated production systems (permaculture, agroecology, agro-sylvo-pastoralism) and follow FAO Voluntary Guidelines for

Sustainable Soil Management.²⁰ Project will implement best management practices for fertilizer following the International Code of Conduct on Sustainable Use and Management of Fertilizers²¹ the implementation of agroforestry practices will minimize the need to use fertilizers/soil conditioners, but they do not eliminate it. The quantities of chemical fertilizers used are expected to be very modest. Project shall ensure that sufficient awareness and capacity building activities are carried out to incorporate gender perspective within pesticide management. Project will avoid direct discharge of wastewater and surface runoff originating from production units or processing areas into freshwater courses and marine coastal areas. Project activities will adopt measures to monitor the quality of groundwater or surface water near the agriculture sites to ensure that actions do not pose a risk to the environment and neighbouring populations (referring to nutrient and other contaminants (veterinary products, medicines, agrochemicals). As part of the ESMP, waste management plans will also be developed considering the main waste generated within each of the value chains supported by the project.

228. Project also promotes Integrates Pest management (IPM) to reduce reliance on pesticides, and good agricultural practices to avoid the adverse impacts of pesticide use on the health and safety of farming communities, consumers, and the environment in accordance with the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. Project shall ensure that sufficient awareness and capacity building activities are carried out to incorporate gender perspective within pesticide management. There will be no pesticide procurement under the project, and highly hazardous pesticides (HHP) will not be used in the project areas. However, during implementation of the Project, agricultural intensification activities, through the promotion of climate-resilient agroforestry (particularly) and forestry production systems could indirectly contribute towards an increase in the use of certain pesticides, therefore the standard is triggered. The project will promote integrated pest management (IPM) to reduce reliance on pesticides or substitute chemical control for biological and physical control (e.g., promote bio-pesticides); additionally good agricultural practices will be adopted to avoid the adverse impacts of pesticide use on the health and safety of farming communities, consumers and the environment in accordance with the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. Additionally training and awareness raising activities will take place regularly to effectively adopt IPM, and considering that not all farmers might adopt IPM, appropriate training for personnel to store, handle, apply and dispose of pesticides and create aware awareness on correct use of personal protection equipment will also take place. In instances where pesticide use is unavoidable, after analyzing the options for IPM, the choice of pesticides must be closely studied. The factors to be considered when selecting pesticides are: i) their selectivity; ii) the risks to nontarget species; iii) their persistence in the environment; iv) their efficacy; and v) the probability of resistance development. Considering high use of pesticides in Somalia (particularly on the project area), a Pest Management Plan will be developed and adopted, following FAO guidelines. The following criteria must be met before a pesticide is approved for use in an FAO project: i) the pesticide must be registered in the country, or it must be specifically permitted by the competent authority. All conditions specified for registered products must be followed; ii) users must be capable of managing the product within acceptable risk margins; iii) preference is given to less dangerous, more selective, less persistent pesticides with less dangerous methods of application that are the best targeted and that require the least pesticide; iv) any procurement of pesticides on the international market must meet the conditions specified by the site <http://www.pic.int/Implementation/Pesticides>.

229. **ESS3 – Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction:** The project aims at increasing the resilience of farmers and their communities under current and future climate risks. Specifically, the project will: i) improve the adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers through increased access to climate resilient and low carbon technologies, market, finance, and social safety nets and risk sharing mechanisms by participating in organized farmer groups/cooperatives; ii) reduced exposure to climate hazards through improve access to water and watershed management, maintenance of soil cover, increased access to climate information services including early warning; iii) improved levels of food and nutrition security through increased production of key crops and commodities that can either be

²⁰ <https://www.fao.org/3/i6874en/l6874EN.pdf>

²¹ <https://www.fao.org/3/ca5253en/ca5253en.pdf>

directly consumed or sold. Activities to be carried out under Outcome 1 include an assessment and mapping of agricultural landscape degradation in each district and implement Ecosystem-based Adaptation technologies to enhance the resilience of ecosystems to the climate change. Outcome 3 includes activities to develop and disseminate improved climate information services and impacts of climate change on food security and nutrition to allow for non-expert users to obtain baseline information on climate hazards and environmental, social, and economic impacts to support evidence-based decision making on the prioritization of investments in climate-resilient interventions.

230. **ESS4 – Decent work:** The Project identified risk related to labor and working conditions. Such risks could include the risk of employing child labor in project activities, discrimination in hiring and selection processes and abusive working conditions, and a high degree of informality and vulnerability (e.g., lack of social protection). Project will work mostly with smallholders and family farmers characterized by family-focused motives such as favouring the stability of the farm household system, using mainly family labour for production and using part of the produce for family consumption. Additionally, due to the country context, youth and children often assist with the farming work of their respective families, and there is a risk that these youngsters might work beyond what is age-appropriate (unless closely monitored). Though improved and inclusive Extension Services, FFS, as well as regular capacity building activities, the project will conduct sensitization training on safe, decent rural employment and age-appropriate work, given that youth often assist with the farming work. Additionally, decent work standards and enforce occupational, health and safety guidelines will be promoted. Adequate and verifiable mechanisms for age verification in recruitment procedures will be set to ensure children under the age of 18 should not be engaged in work-related activities that are likely to be hazardous or interfere with their compulsory child's education or be harmful to the child's health, safety or morals. When it comes to child labour issues, it is important to have a clear understanding of what constitutes child labour as opposed to indigenous traditions of engaging children in certain tasks, this will be taken into consideration in indigenous communities. Major occupational safety and health hazards in agriculture include dangerous machinery and tools, hazardous chemicals, toxic or allergenic agents, carcinogenic substances or agents, parasitic diseases, transmissible animal diseases, infectious diseases, hazards related to confined spaces, ergonomic hazards, extreme temperatures, and contact with dangerous and poisonous animals and insects. Small scale farmers and farm workers are particularly vulnerable when it comes to pesticide use, and most of the time these farmers can't afford proper application gear or protective equipment (backpack sprayers, masks, protective clothing, and gloves). An FAO report on Gender issues in pesticide management (FAO, 2022) highlights that exposure to pesticides can occur during a wide range of tasks, during preparation (when preparing and mixing pesticides, loading spraying equipment), during use (when thinning, weeding and picking of sprayed crops), after application (entering recent spray field, cleaning pesticide contains). Same source cites that women's exposure to pesticides is significantly higher than recognized, and cases of poisoning of women are often under-reported and underdiagnosed; and that women are more vulnerable to the effects of this exposure for physiological reasons.²² Project shall ensure that awareness raising, and capacity building activities are gender-sensitive; and that all workers and contractors are aware of potential health, safety and occupation risks and hazards related to the activities they will perform (agriculture production, processing, construction, etc.). Personal protective equipment should be provided, along with first-aid training and on-site first-aid equipment shall be also available specially for works that are related to higher risk (e.g., workers on poultry/meat processing plants). Agro-processing facilities (constructed/rehabilitated) shall ensure that worker are provided with access to safe and healthy facilities, including access to canteens, hygiene facilities, and rest areas appropriate to the circumstances of their work. Project-level grievance mechanism will be established for all workers (and, where relevant, their organizations and contracted workers) to raise concerns of violations of existing rights and entitlements as provided for in legislation, collective agreements, employment contracts and human resources policies. The project Executing Entities and implementing partners will also participate in on-going training for the effective implementation of FAO decent work guidelines and standards and ensure to comply with national employment and labour laws as well as with other international commitments regarding labour, equal opportunity and fair treatment. Workers

²² Women have a higher percentage of adipose tissue and therefore tend to bioaccumulate lipophilic chemicals, such as persistent organic pollutants, in their fatty tissues.

will be employed – in line with national legislation and/or UN/FAO regulation, whichever is most stringent. All workers and farmers will receive appropriate training to ensure they are aware of potential health, safety and occupation risks and hazards related to the activities they will perform (agriculture production, processing, construction, etc.), ensuring also that personal protective equipment is provided, training will be along with on-site first-aid equipment and training should also be provided.

231. **ESS5 – Community health, safety, and security:** Community health and safety risks are likely to result from exposure to agrochemicals, water and vectors borne diseases, zoonotic diseases, COVID-19, and pollution resulting from some project interventions. Risk also includes the marginalization of women, youth and PLWD. Mitigation measures include integrated pesticides management plans, awareness creation and sensitization on social distancing for potential diseases, adoption of good industry practices, waste management plans. Conduct education and awareness raising with the local end-users regarding sanitation and health issues related to Water-borne and/or water related diseases; as well as intermittent water quality monitoring of the main water reservoirs. While the reservoir/dam may seem to be a convenient point for drawing livestock and domestic water supplies, this should be discouraged on health grounds. The project activities will follow recommendation established by industry-specific best management practices (e.g. Environmental, Health & Safety Guidelines, for management of risks related to community health and safety. The project will establish a grievance mechanism at field level to file complaints during project implementation phase. Contact information and steps or process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops, and other related events throughout the life of the project. In addition, it is expected that all awareness raising material to be distributed will include the necessary information regarding the contacts and the process for filing grievances. The project will also be responsible for documenting and reporting as part of the safeguards performance monitoring on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

232. **ESS 6 – Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence:** Women assume important roles throughout agri-foods value chains to ensure food security and nutrition at community and household levels. The Gender Assessment carried highlights the challenges and barriers women confront, which includes lack of access to climate information, income, land, access to financial resources²³ and extension services, thus resulting in lower adaptative capacity and are expected to face greater vulnerability as climate change impacts. The regional communities are patriarchal, most women and youth do not own the land or other farm assets and do not have decision-making power over cash crops, food security crops or livestock activities that become commercialized. Furthermore, women's work is often overlooked in agriculture, and they frequently receive no payment for agricultural labor and are often not considered farmers by agricultural extension staff. Even when work is remunerated, women will often work longer hours and earn less money than man (work shorter hours). In the seven regions, gendered differences in crop adaptation strategies are closely linked to husbands' and wives' roles and responsibilities, social norms, risk perceptions, and access to resources. Women in rural areas of Somalia are burdened with household tasks such as pounding grain, collecting firewood, fetching water, tilling land, planting, weeding, and harvesting, looking after livestock, caring for children, and cooking for the family. Additionally, women generally have more limited land rights (access, use) than men. For example. Land in Somalia is mainly controlled by male household heads. Thus, women in these regions cannot use land for collateral, affecting their ability to access investment and loans to strengthen or expand their farming activities. Results from the Gender Assessment indicate that the selected value chains (coffee, tea, fruit trees, indigenous leafy vegetables, poultry, and dairy) have distinct gender dynamics, with women and men having different roles and responsibilities across the value chain.

233. SEAH and GBV are critical issues in Somalia, across its many forms which includes sexual and physical violence; the denial of resources, opportunities or services; harmful practices (e.g., forced and child marriage); sexual exploitation and abuse. The Project incorporates a Gender Analysis and Action Plan, with specific gender-targeted activities built into the project design and integrate gender as a cross-cutting element throughout project implementation. The project will ensure that the benefits and opportunities derived from the project are equally distributed, increased gender equality and social

²³ Women mainly source finance for agricultural operations from non-prudential sources and informal sources such as family and friends.

inclusion in access to/control over agricultural inputs, agricultural finance, and agro-climate information and services and agricultural extension. Mitigation measures include the Gender Action Plan which details how the goal of intersectional equity will be mainstreamed in two ways: participation in activities and the content of activities. Women, female youth, female-headed households, and females living with disabilities all have specific quotas that are required for each activity. In addition, the project will seek to partner (if possible) with organizations working locally in gender equality. All Executing Entities and other implementing partners will adhere to FAO's principle of zero-tolerance for sexual exploitation, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment; sensitization training and awareness raising campaigns will be carried out at different levels (within CPIUs, Committees, at county/regional offices, farmers organizations, etc.) to prevent and respond effectively to these incidents. Studies and assessments that are to be taken within the Project will incorporate the collection of sex-disaggregated data and information on gender. Project Grievance Mechanism will include specific consideration to process, handle and respond to GBV complaints, and that incorporates survivor-centre approach (all who are engaged in violence against women programming prioritize the rights, needs, and wishes of the survivor). At the site specific action plans (ESMPs), systematic elements will be included to investigate and redress the negative effects of access to new assets is not subjecting women to violence. To ensure equal access to benefits, the project will establish a strong quota and target for participation of women youth and vulnerable groups in selected value chains in all trainings and equitable access to project investments; additionally, the project will adopt a participatory and demand driven approach to assess community needs and develop support packages tailored to attend their needs, challenges and priorities. Please also refer to Annex 8 GAP.

234. **ESS7 – Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement:** The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not be used for land acquisition or resources (**refer to Appendix 1 Non-eligibility List**). Proposed activities will mostly imply the involvement of communities on a purely voluntary and demand-driven basis. The country reports historic difficulties related to land access and tenure security rights that could compromise the large-scale adoption of CRA practices and increase competition over natural resources among marginalized communities. Existing land uses and land ownership are considered as factors that might influence the adoption/selection of specific production technologies and practices, for example private landowners are more likely to conserve land as they are assured of retaining the long-term gains from investments in conservation. Security of tenure might limit women, youth and PLWD into participating in the project activities; and can influence socio-economic activities such as a change in the range of income generating activities, lifestyles, etc. The Project through its components could cause restrictions on land use and access to natural resources that cause a community or groups within a community to lose access to resource usage where they have traditional or customary tenure, or recognizable usage rights. Through the close engagement process and FPIC, mitigation measures will be taken into consideration to avoid infringing on or extinguishing tenure rights of individuals or groups, including legitimate tenure rights that may not be currently protected by law. Activities carried will require the inclusive and participatory community-decision making process that reflects voluntary, informed consensus regarding any potential change in the restrictions or access to land and natural resources. Additionally, FAO and project executing entities and partners will follow the guiding principles and good practices of responsible tenure governance as articulated in the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). Special considerations will be taken to ensure that indigenous groups (including women) rights and concerns are addressed and that they are also involved in decision-making processes.
235. **ESS8 – Indigenous Peoples:** Somalia is home to a number of groups/clans who self-identify as Indigenous Peoples. In the country, the people who identify with the Indigenous movement are mainly nomadic herders and hunter-gatherers, as well as some fishing villages and small farming communities; and are widely dependent on the natural resources, traditional lands and territories of Indigenous Peoples form a key part in their identity. The nature of the challenges faced by indigenous communities are common and include: land and resource tenure insecurity, political under representation; poor service delivery; water scarcity and food insecurity limited access to employment opportunities; discrimination; high illiteracy levels; high poverty; poor infrastructure, poor sanitation and understaffing of social amenities; harmful cultural practices such as early marriages, female genital mutilation, gender

bias in economic empowerment. Based on the screening assessment, it is concluded that IPs are present in, or have collective attachment to the project area. Therefore, a FPIC process will be implemented following FAO guidelines, to ensure an effective and inclusive participation approach of potential affected indigenous communities, as well as to ensure that existing tenure rights (formal and informal), as well as traditional and/or customary rights of the communities are taken into consideration, and that any involuntary restrictions on land use and access to natural resources is duly handle and/or compensated. The implementation of FPIC must be continuous during all stages of the project, allowing permanent feedback and adjustment of the support actions; incorporating a gender and intergenerational approach to promote the participation of women and youth in the dialogue and decision-making processes. FPIC is a human rights principle and standard that embodies the right of Indigenous Peoples to their lands and to participate in decision-making processes that could affect their livelihood, rights and traditional way of life. Following the results of the FPIC, if deemed necessary and Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) will be drafted in consent with the involved Indigenous Peoples. All project activities should be consistent with Indigenous Peoples tenure rights (formal and informal) and take into consideration the traditional and/or customary rights of these communities, ensuring IPs preserve their rights to access their land and resources (lands, forests, tenure systems, government established compensation frameworks, etc). As a basic principle, all engagement with Indigenous Peoples will be culturally sensitive, seeking to empower indigenous communities and protecting and elevating their ancestral knowledge and rights.

236. **ESS9 – Cultural heritage:** The project will preserve and protect the cultural heritage (tangible and intangible), avoiding and reducing the adverse impacts that the Project could cause on the cultural heritage. The project does not aim at using intangible forms of culture such as cultural knowledge, innovations, and practices of communities embodying traditional lifestyles for commercial purposes. Activities to be carried at Indigenous Peoples' territories are to be adequately consulted with them through FPIC. Refer to non-eligibility list (**Appendix 1**), the project recognizes that these are excluded areas and can be used only for the purposes for which they were established. Activities related to planning process (Landscape Management Strategies) shall map or delimit these areas. Additionally, Chance Find Procedures have been included in this ESMF (**Appendix 4**), the procedures must be included in all third-party contracts (e.g. Letters of Agreement), in instances where the contracted party is assisting with. Any involuntary restrictions on land use and access to natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use will be addressed by ensuring IPs rights are respected and that they are involved in the development of the project strategies. The project consultation process and project-level GRM will facilitate to integrate within the project, the needs and priorities expressed by the involved indigenous communities in manners that are culturally appropriate

5.4. Summary of objectives and principles for Implementation of the Gender Action Plan

237. **Gender Action Plan:** To safeguard against issues of gender equality (ESS6) and to ensure mainstreaming of gender throughout the project design, a Gender Action Plan was prepared for the project. Specifically, the plan ensures adequate inclusion and promotion of women throughout the project's activities and helps in safeguarding women's rights. It further includes measures to mainstream SEAH risk mitigation, ensure accessibility to survivor-centered and gender-responsive GRM, and ensure gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation for project implementation.

238. **Objective:** The objective of the Gender Action Plan is to establish clear targets, in a time- bound framework, to ensure the inclusion of women in the project and operationalization of the GCF Gender Policy. The GCF Gender Policy is meant to ensure that the project adopts a gender sensitive approach so that the GCF funded project will efficiently contribute to gender equality and achieve greater and more sustainable climate change results, outcomes and impacts.

239. **Principles:** The principles that govern the Gender Action Plan are in accordance with ESS6 – Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence, as well as the GCF's guidance on Gender Action Plans, vis-à-vis their Gender Policy. The following six fundamental principles provide the basis upon which the Gender Action Plan has been developed:

- Commitment to gender equality and equity;

- Inclusiveness in terms of applicability to all GCF-funded activities;
- Accountability for gender and climate change results and impacts;
- Country ownership in terms of alignment with national policies and priorities and inclusive stakeholder participation;
- Competencies throughout the GCF's institutional framework; and
- Equitable resource allocation so that women and men benefit equitably from the Fund's adaptation and mitigation activities.

240. There are the following priority areas for the Gender Action Plan, namely:

- Governance and institutional structure;
- Operational guidelines;
- Capacity building;
- Outputs, outcomes, and impact indicators for monitoring and reporting purposes;
- Resource allocation and budgeting; and
- Knowledge generation and communications.

241. The Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan for this project are provided as separate, stand-alone documents, submitted in complement to this ESMF (**see FP Annex 8**). FAO, as the tertiary executing entity, would be responsible for implementation, compliance, and reporting of safeguards.

6. Stakeholder engagement

242. The objective of the consultations is primarily to engage with the various categories of stakeholders at Federal, Federal Member State and District level as they will be involved in project implementation and/or will be the direct beneficiaries of the project. Raising awareness about the project concept is key for the design team: (i) to have a better understanding of challenges/constraints related to Climate Change at various level, (ii) to have a better understanding of institutional challenges/constraints that might hamper project implementation at various level and, (iii) to identify and finetune options to address climate change related issues at various levels.

6.1. Stakeholder identification and consultation

243. The stakeholders were first identified during the design of the concept note based on the focus of the project, agriculture, livestock and water management. At concept note stage, the NDA provided the Line Ministries to be involved at Federal level. FAO design team with the support of FAO Field offices at concept note stage identified the stakeholders in target Federal Member States (South West, Puntland, Somaliland) identified the various stakeholder among CSOs and International Partners.

244. The consultations were conducted a various levels: (i) at federal level with main government, non government stakeholders as well as international partners, (ii) in target federal member states with government and non government stakeholders as well as with international partners and, (iii) in target district level, with local authorities and communities

6.2. Stakeholder engagement during project implementation

245. A concerted stakeholders engagement plan is devised that provides the concerned engagement activities, timeline, key stakeholders, responsible entities for the overall project period (ref. Annex 7: Stakeholder Engagement Plan)

6.3. Disclosure

246. The project will ensure communication and information disclosure in a culturally appropriate manner and in accordance with the national framework, FAO/GCF standards and international best practice. The project will disclose all relevant information concerning the social and environmental risks, the progress of risk management actions and the methods for raising a project-related grievance by establishing a dedicated information portal and, through other mediums, meeting the specific beneficiaries' needs. These information disclosure channels will also be made available and accessible through the project's co-EEs' (MoECC and MoAI) web portals and other communication channels.

6.4. Grievance Redress Mechanism

247. The grievance redress pathways within the project encompass multiple layers to ensure comprehensive and accessible channels for addressing grievances. These pathways include:

- **Project Level GRM:** Depending on the modality of project implementation, this may be established by FAO or the Executing Entity. The specifics of the project-level GRM can be found at (<https://www.fao.org/gcf/en>) when the project is active.
- **FAO GRM:** This mechanism spans across the FAO Country Office, Regional Office, and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), providing a structured process for stakeholders to raise concerns.
- **GCF's Independent Redress Mechanism:** FAO, as an Accredited Entity, is committed to informing executing entities, individuals, and project beneficiaries about both the GCF's Independent Redress Mechanism and FAO's own Grievance Redress Mechanism to ensure all stakeholders are aware of the avenues available to them for grievance redress.

248. To ensure the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is accessible, inclusive, survivor-centered, and gender-responsive, especially in cases of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (SEAH), the following measures are implemented:

- Clear information on how to access the GRM, including details for the project-level GRM, FAO GRM, and GCF's Independent Redress Mechanism, will be widely disseminated among stakeholders.
- The GRM will be designed to be easily accessible to all project stakeholders, ensuring confidentiality, safety, and respect for the rights and dignity of all individuals, especially survivors of SEAH.
- Training and awareness-raising sessions will be conducted to ensure all personnel involved in the grievance process understand the importance of a survivor-centered and gender-responsive approach.
- The indicative resolution period advised in the ESMF includes a 10-day period to acknowledge receipt of a grievance and a 30-day resolution period, during which efforts will be made to resolve the grievance comprehensively. The grievance resolution process is adapted to fit the cultural, traditional, and specific needs of each project context and includes steps for receiving and documenting complaints, evaluation, dismissal of minor grievances with explanations, resolution attempts by the Grievance Redress Committee (GRC), and further recourse to formal judicial channels if necessary.

6.4.1. Project level GRM

249. The project will establish one or more grievance mechanisms to file complaints in the location where the project is being implemented. GRM serves as a mechanism for timely resolution of an issue directly linked to project activities and prevent escalation of problems into social conflict; and as an accountability mechanism where people who are directly or indirectly affected by the project can seek remedy. However, GRM can also serve as a proactive tool to facilitate dialogue with affected

communities at all stages of the project cycle, including to determine what kind of information the communities require and the best means for them to receive it. Setting up a project level GRM is key because of the fragility of the country and exposure of beneficiaries and local communities to local conflicts. The project level GRM aims to:

- Provide affected people an avenue through which affected individuals/communities can voice their concerns and dissatisfactions.
- Create a platform in which stakeholders and community members can freely raise concerns and complaints to be effectively addressed.
- Demonstrate to project stakeholders and communities that they play an important role in project design and implementation.
- Follow up and report on efforts to take corrective action (remediation process).
- Improve project performance by compiling and disseminating best practices and lessons learned from the processes.

FAO Somalia GRM

250. FAO Somalia is committed to ensuring accountability to affected populations (AAP) and has developed several tools used in mainstreaming PSEA/GBV, Protection and AAP into its programme and activities and provide Complaint and Feedback Mechanism. These tools such as CoCo system, hotline, Call Centre, Field monitor and third-party monitoring, bulk Voice or Text SMS, etc. are made available to facilitate a two-ways communication with beneficiaries and communities. Most AAP actions implemented by FAO Somalia have been made in the context of remote operations considering that several FAO's targeted rural areas are in non-accessible locations. In accessible areas a more direct supervision is conducted by FAO technical and field staff, FAO field monitors and government counterpart.
251. FAO Somalia has a dedicated unit dealing with GRM and in-house developed GRM system (CoCo-Compliance, Complaint and Feedback) to handle complaints and feedback, and associated policies. CoCO is a system that integrates and manages the data on compliance, complaints and feedback gathered via the different tools available (hotline, call centre, TiMO-monitoring via digital solution, SMS surveys, emails, etc). The CoCo system enables FAO to respond to communities' concerns systematically and timely, thus increasing community voice and power. CoCO is accessible and responsive to vulnerable people, including women, people with disabilities and other minority groups. FAO Somalia Staff who handle the CoCO system are trained in gender sensitivity, AAP and Protection principles, as well as on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA/PSEA).
252. Beneficiaries are made aware of FAO's toll-free Hotline number, operating on 24hours basis, that they can call at any time to provide feedback, complaint and report cases of fraud, diversion, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Beneficiaries can also lodge complaints or give feedback regarding FAO activities in the field via FAO's Implementing Partners and Local Representatives who are recorded in FAO's E-Platform. Hotline is communicated via several means such as during sensitization and communication sessions, in the consent form, radio campaigns, leaflet, call centre and mandatory bulk SMS Voice messages. FAO's Hotline is in FAO Hargeisa field office and is handled by two FAO staff members who are Somali speakers and speak also local dialect. The Hotline number is toll-free to the callers and covers the entire Somalia thus allowing the most vulnerable to call without cost.
253. Awareness/radio campaigns are launched to accompany all major activities to inform the population at large and beneficiaries specifically of activities, criteria and entitlements associated with participation in FAO projects. Bulk SMS (text and voice) are sent systematically to beneficiaries before activity starts to provide FAO Hotline and entitlement. FAO conducts regular radio Public Service Announcements specific to PSEA/GBV, Protection, AAP and Post-Distribution-Aid-Diversion to encourage beneficiaries and communities to report incidents to FAO and provides FAO's Hotline number and information where else to denounce it.
254. FAO Somalia established clear reporting channels and response mechanisms for beneficiaries and community members and favors the direct contact with beneficiaries via the Call Centre, FAO's toll-free

hotline, Voice SMS and AAP staff handling CoCo; however other mechanisms are available to communities via elders, implementing partners, district authorities, other platforms managed by other organizations (TalktoLoop, Radio Ergo), and anonymous emails.

255. FAO Somalia ensures mediation and facilitation of community and beneficiaries concerns via the network of stakeholders involved in the activity, and according from whom the assistance is required (elders, council members, district authorities, governor, or minister).
256. Implementing Partners are dully screened and assessed and required to establish local mechanism to gather feedback and complaints and report to FAO. This is a requirement assessed at time of pre-qualification for partnering with FAO Somalia.
257. When required, FAO supports the Government in establishing its own GRM for specific projects and provides training, coaching and resources for the operations of the hotline (staff, equipment and telecom cost), while the CoCo system provides a different (from FAO database) and secure access to FMS/FGS to handle the cases, and FAO conducts oversight.

Project specific GRM

258. The Central Project Implementation Unit (CPIU) will be responsible for addressing incoming grievances regarding environmental and social standards; as part of the safeguard's performance monitoring, the National Project Coordinator/safeguards specialists of the CPIU will be responsible for documenting and reporting on any grievances received and how they were addressed. They will be also responsible for coordinating among FAO Somalia's units to address grievances. FAO as well as other executing entities (EEs) will inform communities about the GRM through culturally appropriate mechanisms, ensuring information on the mechanisms at different levels through preferred communication channels, which are to be agreed and discussed as part of the project FPIC. The project will be responsible for documenting and reporting, as part of the safeguard's performance monitoring, on any grievances received and how they were addressed. Any grievances should be analysed and mitigated as quickly as possible to avoid any tensions or conflicts.
259. The GRM will include methods/process to (i) receive and register external communications from the public; (ii) screen and assess the issues raised and determine how to address them; (iii) provide, track, and document responses, if any; and (iv) adjust the management program, as appropriate. The Grievance Redress Mechanism will include the following stages:
 - The established GRM will be conducted in line with the requests from community consultations and will be sensitive to the needs of vulnerable groups, especially Indigenous Peoples, women and PLWD. Main stakeholders (through consultation process that will be part of FPIC) will have to agree on the preferred ways and method to file claims or grievances (e.g. directly through FAO or through existing local structures or traditional means of community discussion, respecting customary rights).
 - In instances whereby the claimant would prefer to have the grievance addressed directly through FAO or a higher level of government but does not have the ability to file a claim personally, the concerned person(s) will express the grievance (either orally or in writing) to the local implementation unit/structure. The project staff at the local level who receives the complaint will be responsible for presenting/filing those complaints to the Safeguards Specialist based in the CPIU in Somalia.
 - In instances where the claimant has the means to directly file a claim, he/she has the right to do so, presenting it directly to the Safeguards Specialist within the CPIU in Somalia. The process of filing a complaint will duly consider anonymity as well as any existing traditional or ethnic dispute resolution mechanisms and it will not interfere with the community's self-governance system. Contact information will also be given for processing a grievance directly to the Safeguards Specialist within the CPIU by phone.
 - After the complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism, this complaint will be registered by the Safeguards Specialist and sent to the CPIU

National Project Coordinator/Technical Advisor to confirm that the complaint is eligible. The confidentiality of the complaint must be preserved during the process.

- Eligible complaints will be addressed by the CPIU or the applicable institution. The CPIU National Project Coordinator/Technical Advisor will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed.
- If the situation is too complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be sent to a higher level, until a solution or acceptance is reached.
- For every complaint received, a written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days.
- In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint, may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the reasons.
- All complaints received, its response and resolutions, must be duly registered.
- All complaints received needs to be solved.

Table 7 Grievance structure

Recipient of Grievance	Action required
Lead Safeguards Specialist	Must register the complaint and send eligible complaints to the CPIU within 2 working days.
Central Project Implementation Unit (CPIU)	Must respond within 5 working days of receipt.
Project Steering Committee (PSC)	Any organization may receive a complaint and must provide proof of receipt of said complaint. If the case is accepted, then the receiver must send all the information to all of the Project Steering Committee members and call for a meeting to find a resolution. The response must be sent within 5 working days after the meeting of the Project Steering Committee
FAO Somalia GRM unit	The unit will assess the complaint and, if need be field a compliance mission through M/E unit to solve the issue. The project safeguard specialist will coordinate among M/E and CFM units to address the complaint and make sure it is solved in compliance with procedures.
FAO representative in Somalia	Must respond within 5 working days, in consultation with PSC. FAO Representative: Email: FAO-SO@fao.org Tel. (+254) 2076 25920
FAO Regional Office for Africa	Must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. FAO representative: Email: FAO-RAF@fao.org phone: +233 (0) 302 610930
Office of the Inspector-General (OIG)	To report potential fraud and misconduct by confidential fax: (+39) 06 570 55550 By email: Investigations-hotline@fao.org By Confidential Hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

260. **Dissemination of FAO Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and GCF Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM).** Disclosure of FAO ESMF information (including GRM & IRM) will be carried through different channels and formats including through FAO disclosure portal, FAO's regional/country offices' websites and/or relevant national website, if applicable. Special consideration will be taken to ensure that information is available on in a form and language that is readily understandable and tailored to the target different stakeholder groups, including marginalized and disadvantaged groups (include women, youth, elderly, Indigenous Peoples, PLWD). To reach a wider audience, at local level, other means of dissemination that will be considered, include disclosure of GRM & IRM as part of the Project ongoing stakeholder engagement processes, as part of FPIC process, in physical and digital format (newsprint, radio reporting, flyers, local displays, direct mail, among others).

- Inception workshop and regular training at county level, and in each of the project regions.
- Information sessions and community meetings, including the provision of information both orally and through informative materials.
- Brochures regarding the project grievance redress mechanism distributed to diverse stakeholders including local and provincial CSOs.
- FAO Somalia's webpage
- Included as part of any other communication material that is designed and distributed during project implementation.

261. The following should be taken into consideration when devising appropriate forms of disclosure: the level of technical detail, local languages and dialects, levels of literacy, roles of women and men, and local methods of disseminating information. Communication material about the GRM channels must be prepared in local languages and should be distributed to all stakeholders throughout the project cycle. Key information to be disseminated include:

- What GRMs are available, including FAO's own grievances reporting procedures, and why they are important.
- Who can actually raise grievances (individuals, communities, and other stakeholders that might be affected by the project), also specifying who cannot.
- Uptake channels, including phone hotline, SMS, email, webpage, offices, or help desks, where grievances can be filed (these should be defined strategically and ideally in consultation with communities so they will be most effective and accessible to different target groups).
- Who is responsible for receiving and responding to grievances.
- Commitments by the project regarding the maximum time allowed to get back to individuals or groups that file a grievance and other time bound steps related to a grievance and described in the GRM of the project document. Note that written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days.
- Policy about protection from retaliation in accordance with the Whistle-blower protection measures, and the victim centered approach policy and its key principles of safety, confidentiality /privacy and informed consent.
- What are the types of responses and benefits that people can receive from using GRMs.

6.4.2. FAO's approach to the GRM

262. FAO is committed to ensuring that its programs are implemented in accordance with the Organization's environmental and social obligations, and therefore supports the establishment and implementation of **Grievance Redress Mechanism** as a crucial process to ensure that parties involved

in and affected by the activities of FAO programmes and projects have access to fair, transparent, inclusive and no-cost process and mechanisms to redress grievances and resolve conflict. FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with E&S obligations (including SEAH and GBV), the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level. FAO grievance, feedback and complaint mechanisms should be:

- **Legitimate:** They should be trusted by the intended stakeholder groups for whose use they are intended and be accountable for the fair conduct of grievance processes.
- **Accessible:** They should be known to all stakeholder groups for whose use they are intended and provide adequate assistance for those who may face barriers to access (such as language and mobility). They should be age- and gender-inclusive; address access barriers for different groups, including marginalized, vulnerable and disadvantaged and persons with disabilities; and deal with concerns promptly and effectively in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate at no cost and without retribution.
- **Predictable:** Provide entry points for communicating concerns and clarity on the mechanism's procedures, and keep the parties with grievances informed about progress by providing sufficient information about the mechanism's performance. A grievance mechanism requires that the involved and affected stakeholders know about it, trust it and are able to use it. It is important to maintain a record of responses to all grievances received and make this available where appropriate; inform the involved and affected parties on how to access the mechanism during stakeholder engagement activities; and indicate the appeals process to which complainants may be referred when resolution has not been achieved.
- **Rights-compatible:** They should ensure that outcomes and remedies are in line with internationally recognized human rights. The mechanism should not prevent access to judicial or administrative remedies. Where feasible and suitable, utilize other existing formal or informal mechanisms as a supplement to the grievance mechanism, if needed, to ensure conformity with internationally recognized human rights.
- **Open to continuous learning:** They should incorporate measures to identify lessons learned that can improve the mechanism, and prevent future grievances and harm.
- **Confidential:** The safety of the complainant should be a primary consideration at all times during reporting, investigation, and thereafter. Complaint mechanisms must consider potential dangers and risks to all parties, including survivors of GBV and abuse and incorporate ways to prevent additional harm. This should include the availability of confidential complaint mechanism systems.

263. In this regard, FAO grievance redress mechanism is designed and established to voice concerns and grievances from people who believe that they have been harmed/affected by the projects or programmes implemented or financed by the Organization; and to identify agreeable solutions within a reasonable timeframe. Special efforts will be made to ensure the grievance redress mechanism is available for all people, and that women, indigenous, marginalized, and other vulnerable and or socially excluded groups have equal access and bear no negative repercussions for filing any complaints or grievances. Any cost that may be associated with the preparation or issuance of a legitimate complaint or grievance (e.g. engaging a qualified person to assist the complainant) will be covered by the grievance mechanism.

264. FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments which includes SEAH and GBV. All concerns and/or incidents related to sexual exploitation and abuse must be addressed to the PSEA Focal Point in the country and to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) as appropriate.

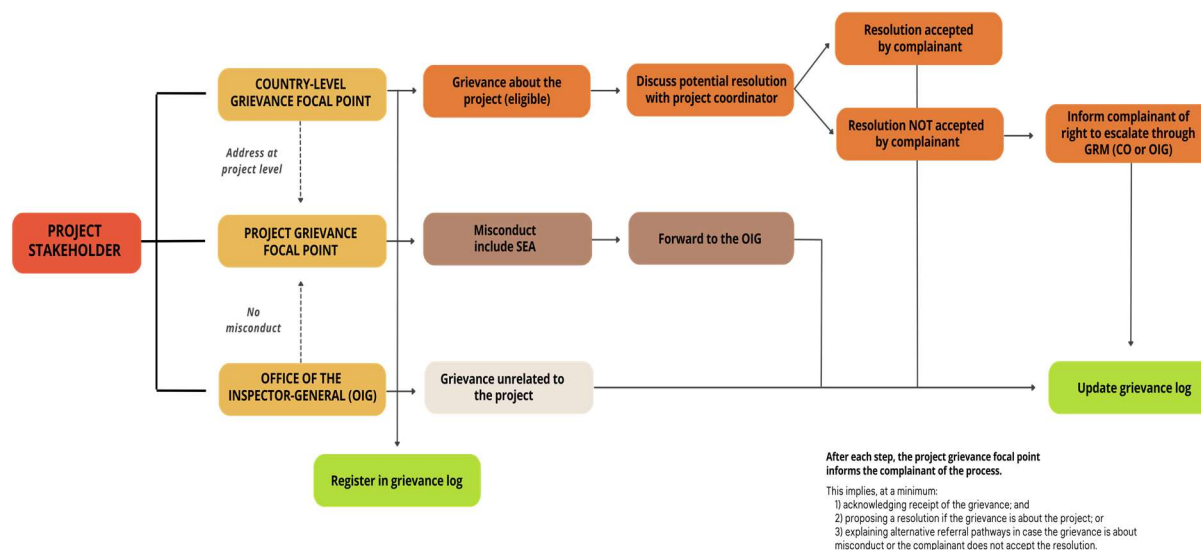
265. The FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments. For this purpose,

concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization’s Environmental and Social Standards, which applies to all FAO programs and projects (Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization’s Environmental and Social Standards). The principles to be followed during the complaint resolution process include impartiality, respect for human rights, including those pertaining to Indigenous Peoples, compliance of national norms, and coherence with the norms, equality, transparency, honesty, and mutual respect.

266. Concerns must be addressed at the closest appropriate level, i.e., at the project management/technical level, and if necessary, at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the OIG in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

267. Any project stakeholder can file a grievance through at least 3 channels: the project GRM, the Country Office GRM (which may be the same as the project GRM), and Office of Inspector General (OIG). GRM shall receive and address complaints related to the implementation of activities in a timely and culturally appropriate manner.

Figure 11 FAO GRM referral pathway



Source: Authors' own elaboration.

268. FAO prohibits and prevents retaliation against workers and other stakeholders who seek to be informed about and participate in activities that are supported or implemented by the Organization; express their concerns about them; or gain access to the processes and mechanisms of FAO programmes and projects for redressing grievances. The Organization neither tolerates nor contributes to threats, intimidation, retaliation or physical and legal attacks against human rights defenders and stakeholders who are involved in and affected by FAO programmes and projects. Respect should always be given to request for confidentiality with regards to the identities of complainant and disclosure of information provided to these mechanisms.

269. The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) provides oversight of the programmes and operations of the Organization, through internal audit and investigation, according to its charter. In addition, the Office has the mandate to independently review complaints related to non-compliance of the Organization’s obligations under the FAO environmental and social standards and has specific guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization’s Environmental and Social Standards. The mechanism set out in these guidelines is designed to be independent, transparent, and

effective to provide programme beneficiaries with a means to have their complaints resolved and to keep them informed of what is being done to address their concerns throughout the compliance review process.

270. These Guidelines provide that any person, group, or representative of a person or group who is potentially directly affected by a FAO programme is permitted to file a complaint, however not anonymous. OIG conducts a preliminary review of admissible complaints to determine if they allege a violation of FAO's social and environmental standards and/or require further investigation.
271. Complaints containing allegations that there has been a breach of the Organization's environmental and social standards must be made in writing and communicated to OIG by mail, courier, email or fax, directly or via any FAO office.
272. Admissible complaints will be posted publicly and opened for external parties to provide comments. Following the comment period, OIG initiates an inspection involving further review, site visits, and interviews as necessary.
273. A draft compliance review report is then prepared and shared with all participants, who can provide comments before a final report is submitted to the Director-General. Copies are also provided to the complainant and other participants.
274. The Director-General makes a final decision on how to respond to the findings in the report.

6.4.3. GCF's Independent Redress Mechanism

275. GCF established an [Independent Redress Mechanism \(IRM\)](#) that reports directly to the Board²⁴. The IRM's mission is to address complaints from affected people and provide recourse in a way that is fair, effective and transparent, and enhance the performance of GCF's climate funding. The IRM also accepts requests from Developing Countries seeking reconsideration of funding proposals that were denied by the GCF Board. To deliver its mandate, the IRM is guided by a number of GCF policies pertinent to GCF's general operations and its projects and programmes: Revised E&S Policy, Interim E&S Safeguards, Indigenous Peoples Policy, Updated Gender Policy and Information Disclosure Policy of the GCF.
276. As per the Procedures and Guidelines of the IRM, the main function of the IRM include among others: address grievances or complaints by a person, group of persons or community who/which have been or may be adversely impacted by a GCF funded project or programme through problem solving and/or compliance review, as appropriate; initiate proceedings on its own to investigate grievances of a person, group of persons or community who/which have been or may be adversely impacted by a GCF funded project or programme; monitor whether decisions taken by the Board based on recommendations made by the IRM, or agreements reached in connection with grievances or complaints through problem solving, have been implemented, and report on that monitoring to the Board.
277. Regardless of the different E&S mitigation measures and procedures in place, climate adaptation and mitigation projects can inadvertently people can be adversely impact communities. Taking this into consideration GCF provides a platform where communities, Indigenous Peoples and civil society can present complaints regarding a specific GCF financed project and seek remedy (redress harm) and improve project performance in the long run. There are no formal requirements for filing a complaint. A complaint should generally include: i) the complainant's name, address and contact information; ii) If the complaint is being filed by a representative of the complainant, the name and contact information of the representative, as well as evidence that the representative is authorized to act on the behalf of the complainant; iii) A description of the project or programme that has caused or may cause adverse impacts to the complainant; iv) A description of how the complainants have been or may be adversely impacted by the project or programme; v) Whether confidentiality is being requested and the reasons for it.

²⁴ <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/about>

278. Some exclusions apply, as indicate in the IRM guidelines. The complaint can raise issues related to any of GCF's policies and procedures, including those relating to social and environmental issues, Indigenous Peoples, gender, information disclosure, among others. However, the IRM cannot accept a complaint if it is: i) About a project or programme where the GCF is not directly and/or indirectly involved; ii) About GCF's non-operational housekeeping, such as human resources and finance; iii) Allegations of corruption or procurement issues (these complaints are handled by the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) and other Units at the GCF); iv) Only about whether the GCF's policies and procedures are adequate; v) About a matter already dealt with by the IRM, unless there is new relevant information that was not available before; or vi) Malicious, frivolous and/or fraudulent or filed to gain a competitive advantage.

279. Who and how can grievances or complaints be submitted.

- Any person or a group of persons, or a community that has been or may be affected negatively by a GCF project or programme (including those being actively considered for funding by the GCF) may file a complaint. The affected person(s) can authorize their government or representative to file and pursue the complaint on their behalf.
- The IRM shall provide confidentiality to a complainant or to a representative, if so requested by the complainant. A grievance or complaint may be submitted in English or in any language the complainant uses.
- The IRM will provide confidentiality upon receiving a complaint if requested to do so by the complainant. Complaints or grievances can be submitted to the IRM through any means such as submission through an online complaints form, mail, email, voice or video recording, or by calling a toll-free hotline where one has been designated for that purpose by the IRM or directly through a web form:
 - <https://gcf.i-sight.com/external/case/new/group=Complaint>
 - Complaints can also be submitted to the Grievance redress mechanism of Accredited Entities (AE) ²⁵.

280. The IRM will cooperate and collaborate with the accountability and/or grievance mechanisms of AEs. The IRM on the one hand, and the accountability and/or grievance redress mechanisms of the respective AEs on the other, will each perform their duties and exercise their powers and functions, in accordance with the policies and procedures applicable to them.

7. Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework

7.1. Indigenous Peoples in Somalia

281. Within the project area, target groups include agricultural cooperatives, farmers, PLWDs (Persons Living with Disabilities), youth, governmental staff, men, and women from diverse ethnic and socio-cultural backgrounds, including members from groups often referred to in other contexts as "indigenous." **It's important to clarify that, for the purposes of this chapter, when mentioning Indigenous Peoples, it specifically refers to not only Indigenous Peoples but also minority and marginalized groups within Somalia. Therefore, in this context, Indigenous Peoples are understood also as those minority and marginalized groups who face significant challenges, including protection issues, discrimination, limited access to basic services, and land.** Consequently, the project will engage both communities traditionally recognized as indigenous in international contexts and other non-indigenous groups, ensuring social inclusion and the safeguarding

²⁵ <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/page/grm-contact-information-gcf-aes-october-2021.pdf>

of rights for all marginalized and excluded communities. This approach is mainstreamed within the project's activities and is subject to responsive and proactive monitoring.

282. The Indigenous Peoples of East Africa are pastoralists and hunter-gatherers who pre-date the migration of Bantu agro-pastoralist peoples into this region. Indigenous Peoples in the Eastern Africa region face numerous challenges that include historical political, social and economic marginalization, non-recognition and denial of land rights, lack of inclusion, consultation and compensation in natural resources exploitation including in extractive industries, land fragmentation among others. Most of their territories have been designated as protected areas for wildlife and forest conservation or as “water towers.” Consequently, their cultures, traditions including their belief systems and livelihood systems are under immense threats.²⁶ Furthermore, environmental degradation is widespread in pastoralists territories especially through large scale cash crop farming. Massive deforestation of forest community areas. Climate change is especially a present threat to Indigenous Peoples in Eastern Africa. Unpredictable weather patterns, increasing instances of drought, new diseases and locusts are currently ravaging Indigenous Peoples’ territories. Climate change mitigation and adaptation programs implemented without the FPIC of IPs threatens their cultures, livelihoods and traditions. As a result of non-recognition of their rights, the communities lack basic services like schools, hospitals, roads among others.²⁷
283. Within the intricate societal fabric of Somalia, the concept of Indigenous Peoples, as defined internationally, does not directly translate due to the country's relatively homogenous ethnic composition, dominated by ethnic Somalis who share a common language, religion, and cultural heritage. Despite this homogeneity, various regions house indigenous and minority groups, each confronting unique circumstances rooted in their geographical location and historical backgrounds. In the agriculturally rich regions of Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle, the Bantu/Jareer communities, descendants from Southeast Africa, are primarily engaged in farming along the riverbanks, adopting a lifestyle that starkly contrasts with the pastoral norms of the majority Somali population. Similarly, the Lower Juba region hosts Bantu communities whose agricultural practices along the Juba River set them apart from the predominantly pastoralist ethnic Somalis. These Bantu communities still maintain their cultural distinctiveness (though Muslim, still more liberal in gender segregation, hijab wearing, etc.; speak Somali with distinct accent and frequent Kiswahili words; disputes rarely flare up in violent conflicts; livelihoods coming from well-delineated farms rather than communal pastures; fewer alliances with the Somali clan system, etc.). The physical appearance is distinct as well – Bantu rather than Somali features.
284. The demographic landscape in the Nugaal region leans towards a more uniform Somali population, with fewer pronounced indigenous or minority groups, attributed to its arid landscape and nomadic lifestyle. Nevertheless, occupational castes, widespread across Somalia, also find a place in Nugaal, often living on the fringes of society. The semi-arid plains and pastoral economies of Togdheer and Galguduud accommodate a blend of Somali clans; these regions do not significantly feature groups identified as indigenous in the international sense but do include minority clans and occupational groups enduring the tough environmental and societal challenges.
285. In the Mudug region, which lies at the intersection of Puntland and Galmudug states, complex clan dynamics prevail over distinct indigenous populations. The interplay among various Somali clans here diminishes the visibility of any specific minority group, though occupational minorities are present. Across Somalia, from the riverine domains of the Shabelle and Juba rivers to the arid expanses of Nugaal and Togdheer, the country's underlying diversity emerges against the backdrop of its ethnic uniformity. This diversity highlights the need for a nuanced approach to safeguarding the rights and addressing the needs of all Somalis, especially the marginalized and minority groups, in the broader context of the nation's efforts toward state-building and reconciliation.
286. The International Labour Organization (ILO) reports that individuals belonging to minority and marginalized groups are almost three times as likely to experience extreme poverty compared to their majority counterparts. In these communities, the concept of poverty transcends mere income,

²⁶ <https://www.ipacc.org.za/east-africa/>

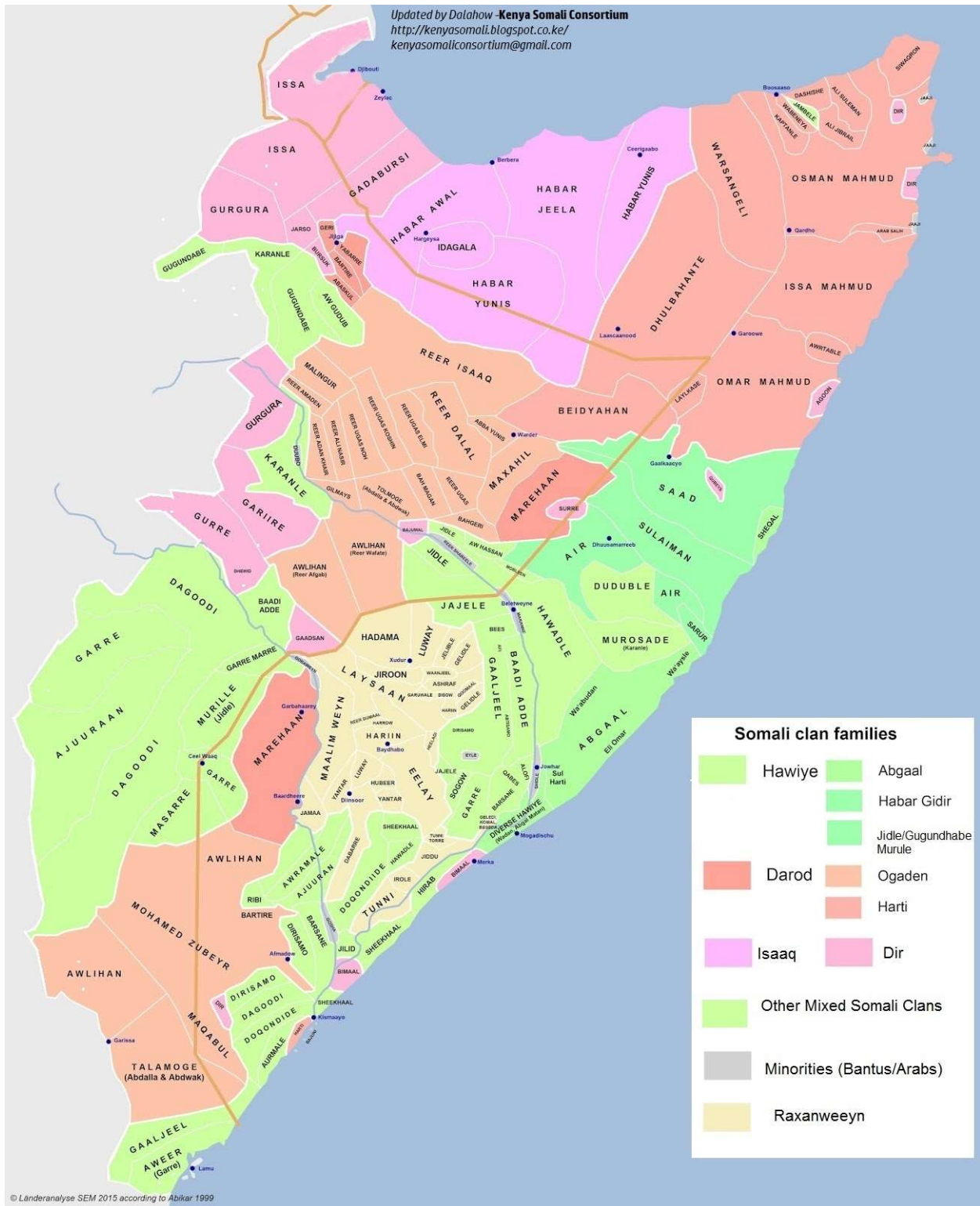
²⁷ Idem

encompassing access to land, overall well-being, spirituality, and dignity. Women in Somalia, belonging to these groups, face multifaceted social, cultural, economic, and political challenges. They are marginalized on a national level and also face internal social and cultural prejudices, which hinder their opportunities to overcome high levels of illiteracy and poverty. These barriers also prevent them from having a significant voice to influence cultural, political governance, and development policies and processes.

287. A 2020 study by Indigenous Navigator on the realities faced by women in these communities underscores the issue of lacking land title registration, which impedes their ability to generate income. Further exacerbating this are restrictions on land access, land degradation, and climate change, prompting migration to urban areas. These women grapple with health issues, low education and income levels, unemployment, and lack of land ownership. Moreover, the absence of access to social security services renders them even more vulnerable. The study also points out the underrepresentation of these women in legal and political decision-making processes, both nationally and within their communities, highlighting physical, psychological, and social barriers that impede their participation in public life.

288. Communities closely connected to their natural environment bear the significant impact of the climate crisis, particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change due to their dependence on nature for survival and economic livelihoods. The UNHCR emphasizes the crucial role of traditional and local knowledge in building resilience against climate change through nature-based solutions. In Africa, incorporating indigenous and local knowledge in planning and development is vital for adaptation. For example, the adoption of climate-smart agroecological production systems, such as the cultivation of drought-tolerant crops, has led to sustainable land management, minimized water use, reduced human–wildlife conflict, and improved food security among such communities. Their deep cultural connection to their environment also facilitates the adoption of nature-based ecotourism, showcasing adaptations to climate change that include diversifying livestock and crops, adjusting herds, destocking, and supplementary feeding. Environmental concerns are also a leading explanation of conflicts over land in Somalia, increased struggles for water and food security due to uncertain climatic conditions form the basis upon which environmental explanations of land conflicts are grounded (Onguny & Gillies, 2019). In some Somali communities, clashes between farmers and pastoralists erupt; farms encroach on rangelands while livestock invade farms. According to Onguny & Gillies (2019) climate-induced people mobility and wildlife migration have been shown to contribute to enhanced conflict between transhumant, sedentary and nomadic livelihood practices. This same author states that, in Tana River County (outside of project area of influence), the mobile livelihoods of pastoralist communities such as the Orma are seen as clashing with the livelihood practices of agro-pastoralist groups such as Pokomo, particularly during drought and famine.

Figure 12 Representing Somali clans and marginal groups (Minorities such as Bantus/Arabs)²⁸



²⁸ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

7.2. Laws and policies on Indigenous Peoples

289. Somalia does not have specific laws or policies explicitly dedicated to the rights and protections of Indigenous Peoples in the manner recognized by international frameworks such as those advocated by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The concept of Indigenous Peoples, as defined internationally, does not directly translate into the Somali context due to the country's relatively homogenous ethnic composition, dominated by ethnic Somalis who share a common language, religion, and cultural heritage.
290. However, Somalia has general human rights laws and is a party to several international human rights treaties that protect the rights of all its citizens, including minority and marginalized groups. These international commitments include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), among others, which Somalia has ratified and is bound to uphold. These treaties advocate for the protection of cultural rights, non-discrimination, and rights to education and health, which are relevant to the welfare of minority groups within Somalia.
291. At the national level, Somalia's Provisional Constitution, adopted in 2012, provides a legal framework that includes provisions on human rights and equality before the law, potentially benefiting minority groups. The Constitution recognizes the importance of social justice and the rights of vulnerable groups, although it does not specifically mention Indigenous Peoples. Efforts to develop and implement more detailed legislation and policies that address the unique needs of Somalia's diverse groups, including those that could be considered indigenous or minority populations, are ongoing.
292. Somalia's Provisional Constitution, adopted in 2012, includes various articles aimed at establishing a legal and institutional framework that upholds the rule of law, human rights, and governance principles within the country. Some of the key articles in the Provisional Constitution include:
- 1) **Article 1** – Asserts Somalia's sovereignty and the inviolability of its territory.
 - 2) **Article 2** – Declares Islam as the state religion, prohibits the propagation of other religions, and states the constitution is based on Sharia.
 - 3) **Article 3** – Defines the Federal Republic of Somalia's boundaries and emphasizes the unity and inviolability of Somali territory.
 - 4) **Article 4** – Outlines the supremacy of the constitution, stating all laws must comply with it.
 - 5) **Article 11** – Guarantees equality of all citizens before the law and prohibits any form of discrimination.
 - 6) **Article 15** – Protects the right to life, prohibiting any law that permits arbitrary deprivation of life.
 - 7) **Article 17** – Ensures the right to freedom of movement and residence within Somalia.
 - 8) **Article 20** – Secures the freedom of expression and opinion.
 - 9) **Article 22** – Upholds the freedom of assembly and peaceful demonstration.
 - 10) **Article 24** – Affirms the right to privacy.
 - 11) **Article 26** – Recognizes the right to education.
 - 12) **Article 27** – Guarantees the right to access public health care services.
 - 13) **Article 29** – Protects the rights of women and children, including measures against female genital mutilation.
293. These articles form the backbone of Somalia's commitment to promoting a society based on democratic principles, social justice, and human rights. In terms of international treaties, Somalia has ratified several key human rights treaties, which include:
- 1) **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)** – Committing to the respect of civil and political rights of individuals.

- 2) **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)** – Pledging to uphold the economic, social, and cultural rights of its citizens.
- 3) **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)** – Aiming to eliminate discrimination against women in all its forms.
- 4) **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** – Guaranteeing a wide array of rights for children.
- 5) **Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)** – Prohibiting torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.

294. These treaties, alongside the Provisional Constitution, signify Somalia's legal obligations and commitment to uphold the fundamental human rights and freedoms of its people, including those of minority and marginalized groups. However, the implementation of these commitments into practical and enforceable laws and policies is an ongoing process that faces challenges due to the country's complex security and political landscape.

7.3. Indigenous Peoples in the project sites

295. Minority of Bantu origin along the river Shebelle and Juba: Though most of the minority groups are residing in the urban areas, the people of the Bantu live mostly along the rivers, the first line of residents are Bantu, almost 90%. They came in the colonial period to use their services for farming on the newly cultivated areas along Shebelle and Juba. Unlike Somalis who prefer pastoralism over farming, the Bantu were skilled in farming. The extensive farm lands along Jowhar, Beletweyne, etc. are occupied by people of Bantu origin namely Reer Shabelle, Bujumal, Makane, etc. The Shiidle (Bantu origin along the river in Jowhar area) and Eyle (Bantu also in Jowhar area) are among the main minority groups of Bantu origin in the project area. Other minority groups include;

- Though quite amalgamated, people of Arab origin are living in the cities along the coast starting from Mogadishu to Barawe to Merka and down to Kismayo.
- Banadiri people: these people are based in the southern coastal town of Mogadishu, Marka, Barawa and down to Kismayo. they are from Arab/Turkish origin and are staying in the premises of Mogadishu, Barawe, Marka, mainly in the coastal area. Some of them also live in Berbera and Bossaso. They also don't have land. Mainly they can be divided in three groups: Reer Hamar, Reer Marka and Reer Barawa. In the interior Banadiri can also be found in Afgooye, Jowhar, Beletweyne, Baidoa, etc. In Mogadishu these people are confined to the oldest districts.

296. **Current status of assimilation:** Most of the minority groups have been assimilated into other Somalia clans with whom they live. For example, the Galgala have assimilated into the Abgal in Jowhar and Mogadishu. However, they identify themselves as Nuh Mohamud, a sub clan of the Majerten clan. Some Gaboye, Tumul and Yibir assimilated into the Isak in Somaliland, while others yet have been assimilated into the Darod in Puntland and central regions. There are also other Gaboye, Tumul and Yibir who have been assimilated with Hawadle, Murasade and Marehan clans in Galgadud region.

297. With the exception of the Bantu, Rerhamar, Bravanese, Bajuni and Eyle who have distinct "non-Somali" physical appearance, all other minorities have physical appearances similar to that of the dominant clans, as well as having ethnic and cultural similarities. What distinguishes the assimilated minorities are their distinct economic livelihoods.

298. For the purpose of the project, the minorities of Bantu origin are of direct relevance as they are engaged mainly in farming activities along the river Shebelle and also lower parts of Juba. They will be also of direct relevance in landscape management. The site-specific differentiated segregation of benefits and obligation will be ensured by the project through the landscape management planning process. These minorities together with others (who are now living alongside the major Somali clans) in Puntland and Somaliland will be targeted in the development of value chain, beside the sustainable landscape management activities.

299. Somalia is characterized by a relatively homogenous ethnic composition, mainly of ethnic Somalis who share the same language, religious beliefs, and cultural heritage. The majority of the target regions are home to minority and marginalized groups that encounter significant challenges, including issues related to protection, discrimination, and restricted access to healthcare services, although they do not fit the international definition of IPs.
300. There are, however, areas of ethno-cultural diversity that trace back to historical times. For example, the Bantu farmer communities along the Shabelle and Juba rivers still maintain their historical cultural distinction such as liberalism in gender segregation, absence of clan alliances, less armed/violent disputes, language marked by Kiswahili accent/words, and even different physical traits. Additionally, Lower Shabelle is home to diverse and complex populations that have resided in the area since the pre-colonial era—comprising 55-60% Digil, 30% Hawiye, and 10% Biyamaal clans—historical migrants from various Somali clans who arrived during the colonial and early independence periods for employment or to invest in agriculture, and families of formidable clan militias established during the civil war era.
301. Consequently, the conventional Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process, usually required for projects impacting IPs, needs to be adapted for the Somali context. The emphasis is now on fostering effective and inclusive participation of not only Indigenous Peoples but also these minority and marginalized groups, directly addressing their unique needs and difficulties. This method aims to support and engage with Indigenous Peoples as well as minority and marginalized groups within the project area. Therefore, project initiatives will be crafted to respect and meet the needs of these groups, focusing on culturally sensitive engagement, empowerment, and safeguarding their resource access. This revised approach demonstrates a dedication to upholding the rights and well-being of all affected community members, making sure they are beneficiaries of the project's achievements.

7.4. Potential risk and impacts of the project on minorities and marginalized communities

302. In light of the complex social landscape of the project sites in Somalia and the escalating pressures on natural resources, the project aims to implement Climate-Resilient Agriculture (CRA) activities alongside beneficial agricultural and industrial methodologies. These are designed to enhance resilience against climate adversities, expand the adaptive capacity of farmers and smallholders against climate change ramifications, diversify income sources, and fortify capacity and governance frameworks to effectively counteract disturbances. To mitigate potential negative outcomes, specific risk screenings and the formulation of Environmental and Social (E&S) management plans will be undertaken early in the project's initiation, based on comprehensive evaluations of the project locales and the communities served.
303. Main Risks Related to Project Activities:
- Inadequate inclusion of minority and marginalized groups in project activities and planning, potentially widening socio-economic disparities.
 - Increased tension and competition and even conflicts for resources among community groups.
 - Unclear tenure on forest and communal lands, impacting the adoption of CRA measures.
 - Potential restrictions on land use and access due to traditional ownership or customary practices, adversely affecting community livelihoods and cultural heritage.
304. Mitigation Measures to Prevent and Mitigate Potential Risks and Impacts:
- Implementing a participatory and inclusive approach at local level to ensure meaningful and effective consultations with all community members, addressing the adverse effects of climate change.
 - Ensuring voluntary participation in the project, with a strong focus on gender and generational inclusivity in all project activities.

- Involving communities in decision-making processes throughout the project lifecycle and, particularly in the design of the landscape management plans, to ensure their voices are heard and considered.
- Integrating landscape management and watershed management strategies at the community level, respecting sustainable use of resources in line with cultural practices.
- Fostering ongoing stakeholder engagement to proactively address and mitigate potential adverse risks and impacts, ensuring equitable access to project benefits.
- Prioritizing culturally sensitive engagement and empowerment strategies to protect community access to resources and uphold their cultural patrimony.

305. Through these measures, the project aims to address the challenges and constraints identified, ensuring a broad and continuous participation of all community members, and fostering inclusive development. This approach underscores a commitment to upholding the rights and well-being of all affected community members, making sure they benefit from the project's achievements.

306. **Positive impacts:** the project has an important potential for contributing the country's needs on participatory and inclusive development, as it: i) promote inclusive and participatory decision-making process within the regions planning and land zoning processes taking into account needs and rights of the communities; ii) integrate women's, PLWD, and youth and IPs representation and participation within the key value chains and access to agriculture and livestock inputs; iii) increased gender equality and social inclusion in access to/control over agricultural inputs, agricultural finance, and agri-climate information and services and agricultural extension; iv) enhance adaptive capacity of farmers and marginalized groups to confront climate change impacts; v) improved levels of food and nutrition security through diversification and increased production of key crops and commodities; vi) promote decent working opportunities for marginalized groups and enhance their capacity (inclusive training) to integrate them within higher or specialized links of the key value chain.

307. The Project will adopt and promote practice to increase climate resilience and enhance carbon sequestration through: agroecology and agroforestry practices along with other nature-based solutions; integrated pest management (IPM); integrated water management practice, reforestation and rehabilitation of degraded sensitive areas and promote the increased use of renewable energy (e.g. waste to energy loops, solar air drying and heating technologies energy through the adoption mainly of solar energy, among others). Therefore, the project activities are aligned with the joint declaration of Social Movements and Peasant farmers, Faith-Based Organizations and CSO delivered at the "African People's Summit" ahead of the 6th EU-Africa Summit²⁹. Thereby, the project recognizes, value and support the vast potential of peasant agroecology to sustainably increase food security and sovereignty, reduce poverty and hunger, while conserving biodiversity and respecting indigenous knowledge and innovation. Furthermore, the project also recognizes and support small-scale farming as a viable structural model for the development of the agricultural sector and to increase climate resilient and reduce GHG emission through agroecology and other nature-based solutions; seeks to dynamize rural economy through the support of key value chains and support investments in a decentralized clean energy through the adoption of solar energy.

7.5. FPIC Process

308. In accordance with the FAO Environmental and Social (E&S) guidelines and standards, the organization's programs and projects in Somalia are developed through collaborative processes that involve full, effective, and meaningful consultation and participation of local communities. This approach is tailored to the Somali context, acknowledging the country's relatively homogenous ethnic composition and focusing on ensuring that not only Indigenous Peoples but also minority and marginalized groups receive fair and equal opportunities from project activities and commercial development of local resources. While the concept of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is a specific right pertaining to Indigenous Peoples as recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous

²⁹ <https://www.cidse.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/EN-African-Peoples-Declaration.pdf>

Peoples (UNDRIP), in Somalia, this principle is adapted to engage and respect the rights and interests of these communities in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner, with a particular emphasis on gender equality. While adapting the approach, the project will ensure that the cultural distinction of Bantu communities is duly considered. The adapted FPIC process in Somalia emphasizes the importance of meaningful engagement as a mechanism and process, ensuring that the integration and interconnectedness of key elements are maintained throughout the project lifecycle, including a series of key elements that are interconnected:

- **Free:** Independent process of decision making.
- **Prior:** Right for communities to undertake their own decision-making process regarding any project that concerns them before its implementation.
- **Informed:** Right to be provided and to have sufficient information on matters for decision-making.
- **Consent:** Collective and independent decision of impacted communities after undergoing their own process of decision making.

309. Consent should be sought before any project, plan or action takes place (prior); it should be independently decided upon (free); and based on accurate, timely and sufficient information provided on a culturally appropriate way (informed) for it to be considered a valid result or outcome of a collective decision-making process. FPIC allows communities to give or withhold consent to a program or project that may affect them or their territories. Once they have given their consent, they can withdraw it at any stage of the project cycle. FPIC also enables communities to negotiate the conditions under which the project will be designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated. The FPIC process in Somalia aims at:

- Ensuring a positive engagement of marginalized groups and adequate participation of youth and women in the program or project;
- Avoiding adverse impacts, or when avoidance is not feasible, minimizing, mitigating, or compensating for these impacts in accordance with the agreement of marginalized groups; and
- Tailoring benefits in a gender-responsive and culturally appropriate way.

310. Participation within the project is voluntary, and continuous effective engagement will be a core underlying principle the principles utilized with all community-based organizations while a full and formal FPIC process will be used when marginalized groups are engaged. To participate in the project, FPIC principles will be followed as per FAO Indigenous and Tribal People Policy and FAO FPIC Manual for Project Practitioners, and other institutional complementary guidelines that are compatible with GCF Indigenous Policy. As part of this ESMF, an environmental and social analysis of the activities that may affect or involve the marginalized groups has been carried. Results of this assessment, along with other project relevant documentation is to be shared with the marginalized groups throughout project implementation.

311. FAO recognizes that traditional knowledge is valuable for identifying and addressing potential risks, including hazards and disaster risks, and should be incorporated into the entire program or project cycle, as part of the development of ESMPs. Specifically, to determine potential impacts of project on marginalized communities, as well as the scope and classification of the FPIC activities, the following FPIC assessment screening was conducted (see Table 8). This screening process conducted help to determine the risk level the project could have and to identify potential mitigation actions.

Table 8 FPIC assessment checklist for Somalia – screening tool

Criteria	Yes	No	Description
Are there any minority groups in the project area or will the project activities involve	Yes		Yes, the project area encompasses various communities, including nomadic herders and hunter-gatherers. These communities either reside permanently within the lands impacted by the project or engage in nomadic or seasonal migration patterns, establishing periodic, seasonal, or cyclic connections to ancestral territories.

<p>minority peoples directly?</p>		<p>Minority groups, encompassing women, youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, may be actively engaged in various project facets such as awareness and capacity building, farmers' field schools, and the local planning processes, including the adoption of Climate Resilient Agriculture (CRA) practices. Additionally, the risk of not adequately including marginalized communities in project activities or not fully considering societal and cultural nuances could exacerbate existing socio-economic disparities among these groups. Through a comprehensive engagement process, the project commits to ensuring that these communities are well-informed about their land rights as recognized by applicable laws and relevant international treaties and agreements. They will also be educated on the scope and potential impacts of proposed activities, with a structured approach to enable equitable benefit from the project endeavors.</p>
<p>Are project activities likely to have adverse effects on minority groups rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, and culture or heritage (tangible and intangible)?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The project activities are not anticipated to adversely affect the rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, and culture or heritage (tangible and intangible) of minority groups. While certain project activities might intersect with the livelihoods of these communities—for instance, potentially affecting access to grazing lands or pastoralist activities—such impacts are expected to be minimal and will be carefully managed. This includes involving affected communities in the planning and decision-making processes to ensure their perspectives and needs are fully considered and represented in project committees. Even if the project will target land-owners and support agriculture or value chain development, job opportunities will be created, that will be beneficial to minority groups.</p> <p>To mitigate any potential minor disruptions, the project commits to a continuous stakeholder consultation process, including the principles of FPIC and targeted capacity-building activities. This approach will guarantee that all pertinent information is delivered to community groups in an accessible and understandable manner, engaging all vulnerable sub-groups (such as youth, women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities) and allowing ample time for discussion in local languages and the free expression of consent. The project's consultation strategy and grievance redress mechanism are designed to ensure that the priorities and needs of these communities are incorporated into the project in culturally appropriate ways.</p> <p>Furthermore, the FAO, along with project executing entities and partners, will adhere to the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). This will guide responsible tenure governance and ensure that project activities respect the traditional rights and customs of community groups. Careful oversight will ensure that the project activities do not impinge upon the ancestral rights and traditions of these groups, thereby preventing any potential restrictions on their rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, and knowledge.</p>
<p>Are minority communities outside the project area likely to be affected by the project?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Minority communities located outside the project area are not anticipated to experience impacts from the project activities. The project is committed to acknowledging the customary use rights of marginalized communities and will utilize FPIC alongside continuous, effective, and inclusive stakeholder engagement processes throughout the project's lifecycle to address any potential risks. Additionally, the project places a strong emphasis on involving marginalized communities in the decision-making process, ensuring</p>

			respect for their customary rights. As the project will help diversify livelihoods and rangelands better managed in the vicinity, migration might be reduced and affects positively other communities outside the project area.
Will the project activities result in displacement of minority groups?		No	The project activities are designed in such a way that they will not result in the involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities. Funds from the project are not allocated for land acquisition or the procurement of resources (refer to Appendix 1 – Non-eligibility List). The engagement of communities within the project is intended to be entirely voluntary and driven by the demands of the communities themselves. Furthermore, all project activities will undergo Environmental and Social (E&S) Screening to guarantee that no displacement or resettlement occurs.
Will there be activities involving the sacred grounds, burial sites, cultural and heritage sites, critical and special areas identified by the minority groups?		No	Refer to non-eligibility list (Appendix 1), the project recognizes that these are excluded areas and can be used only for the purposes for which they were established. Activities related to planning process (Landscape Management Strategies of the regions) shall map or delimit these areas. Chance Find Procedure is included (Appendix 4).
Will there be project activities undertaken inside the ancestral lands and ancestral domains?		No	Refer to non-eligibility list (Appendix 1), the project recognizes that these are excluded areas. Project activities will not be undertaken inside the ancestral lands and ancestral domains, demonstration farms, farmers field schools. Project activities undertaken inside the ancestral lands and/or of ancestral domains will require FPIC, to ensure consent is provided prior to the installation of the facilities and will include the determination of the compensation for the land to be used. Ancestral lands and domains, cultural and heritage sites, land traditionally owned by, or under customary rights of pastoralist and other ethnic and marginalized communities are to be identified and mapped/zoned within the Landscape and watershed Management Strategies that are to be developed.
Will there be project activities involving research on minority groups knowledge, systems and practices related to agriculture, forestry, watershed and resource management systems and technologies?		Yes	Yes, the project will engage in activities that involve research on the knowledge, systems, and practices of minority groups related to agriculture, forestry, watershed, and resource management systems and technologies. The project plans to document and incorporate traditional knowledge and practices within Climate-Resilient Agriculture (CRA) practices. This may include supporting the inclusion of traditional land management and watershed strategies that honor the sustainable use of biodiversity. Furthermore, the project recognizes the potential to utilize genetic resources or associated traditional knowledge of local communities for production and human consumption, always adhering to intellectual property rights and principles of food sovereignty. In scenarios where traditional knowledge is to be integrated or shared, Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) or approval and active participation of the local communities will be essential. The project is committed to ensuring that any information gathered or shared with third parties will be done with the proper consent.

			Protection measures for rights, value systems, and community intellectual property rights are a priority and will be formally established during the FPIC process. While the project supports the use of local/native species and varieties, any introduction of new plant or animal varieties will undergo careful consideration and risk assessment to evaluate the potential impacts on local varieties and the ecosystem.
Will there be gathering of genetic resources for bioprospecting?		No	No, the project does not include activities related to the gathering of genetic resources for bioprospecting purposes. Should there be any collection of genetic materials, such as seeds, these efforts will strictly aim to support non-commercial objectives. Specifically, any seed banking initiatives within community areas will be: (i) led by the community itself, (ii) intended primarily for the benefit of the community, and (iii) conducted in alignment with farmers' rights to seeds and with the FPIC of the local communities involved.

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

312. Furthermore, screening of all the project activities will be a mandatory requirement to determine if communities present in or have collective attachment to, the project area (**Appendix 6**). In conducting this screening, the technical judgment of qualified social expert will be sought under FAO-Somalia Office. All consultation with the marginalized communities are to be coordinated with the County Offices and executing agencies.

313. FPIC Adaptations for Somalia:

- **Identification of Minority and Marginalized Groups:**³⁰ Recognizing Somalia's relatively homogenous ethnic composition, the identification process adapts the international consensus to fit the local context. The criteria include historical connection to the land, cultural distinctiveness (such as languages, traditions, and social institutions), self-identification, and experiences of marginalization or discrimination. Keeping in view the distinctive culture, minorities of Bantu origin live-off farming, spread-along the rivers Shebelle and Juba, will be clearly delineated.
- **Rights over Land, Territories, and Natural Resources:** Minority and marginalized groups have rights to own, use, develop, and control lands, territories, and resources traditionally occupied, used, or otherwise acquired.³¹
- **Prior Assessment of Impact on Communities:** Projects expected to affect local communities require a thorough assessment to identify: i) the presence of minority or marginalized groups within the proposed project area(s), including detailed information by group and location; and ii) potential indirect impacts on communities outside the project area.
- **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):**³² Adhering to the adapted principles for Somalia, FAO mandates that projects and programs likely to affect minority and marginalized groups proceed only after a process of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, ensuring consent from the affected community.

314. The project will adhere to the principle of obtaining FPIC in line with FAO's environmental and social safeguards³³, adjusted for Somalia's context, recognizing its relatively homogenous ethnic composition while the distinctive culture and tradition of minorities such as the Bantu farmer community will be fully respected. FPIC enables communities to grant or withhold consent for programs or projects that may impact them or their territories. This consent can be retracted at any point during the project

³⁰ FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/newsroom/docs/FAO_policy.pdf

³¹ Article 26(1) of the UNDRIP

³² The FPIC process needs to be undertaken whenever the project may affect Indigenous Peoples' rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, and culture or heritage (tangible and intangible).

³³ <https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/2ead5dd4-4fa1-46ef-9a3e-d6296fe39de9/>

cycle, allowing communities to set the terms under which the project is developed, implemented, monitored, and evaluated, aligning with the universal right to self-determination. Key considerations include:

- Ensuring meaningful participation of youth, women, the elderly, and Persons Living with Disabilities (PLWD) in the consultation process, which should be gender-responsive and culturally appropriate.
- The FPIC process must be rigorously adhered to, requiring consent from recognized community leaders or the communities themselves before initiating any project activities that might affect their rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, and cultural or heritage assets.
- Gathering comprehensive information on rights, property interests, tenure arrangements, and traditional resource usage is a crucial part of FPIC, with a focus on addressing the distinct needs of different community members, including both women and men, youth and the elderly. This also involves considering the institutions, rules, and customs of the communities involved.
- The project will respect the collective rights of communities to own, use, develop, and control lands, territories (which may include waters), and resources traditionally owned, occupied, or utilized.

315. Given the absence of a national protocol for the FPIC process in Somalia, the project will follow the FPIC Manual³⁴ and Practical Guidance document for Respecting FPIC³⁵, aligning with the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy. The FAO, in close collaboration with regional actors (both national and local government bodies, such as regional offices), along with local non-state actors (e.g., CSOs/NGOs, community representatives), and executing entities, will lead this process.

7.6. Recommendations for implementation

316. FAO will establish a dedicated Project Task Force (PTF)³⁶ in alignment with its project cycle guidelines, comprised of the Budget Holder (BH), the Lead Technical Officer (LTO), Funding Liaison Officer (FLO), HQ Technical Officer, and other technical officers as needed. A CPIU will also be set up, including roles such as a project director, finance officer, operation officer, human resources & admin officer, procurement officer, and additional technical specialists to support the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) implementation.

317. Each sub-project/activity will undergo an assessment to identify any previously unrecognized adverse impacts on minority and marginalized communities and determine the need for a detailed environmental and social management plan. This assessment will be conducted with the expertise of a qualified Gender, social inclusion and IP expert under the CPIU.

318. The implementation of environmental and social management plans will be coordinated by the FAO and CPIU ESS Specialist, in collaboration with the Field Offices and executing entities. All CPIU staff, implementing partners, executing entities, and contractors will participate in awareness-raising and capacity-building activities to ensure culturally appropriate interactions with all community groups and compliance with mitigation measures.

319. Involvement in the consultation process will be extended to all community members, including women, youth, elders, and PLWD, ensuring a participatory and inclusive approach. Measures to facilitate this include separate discussions for specific groups, provision of community-friendly information, selecting accessible community venues for discussions, and establishing feedback mechanisms.

³⁴ <https://www.fao.org/3/i6190e/i6190e.pdf>

³⁵ <https://www.fao.org/3/i3496e/i3496e.pdf>

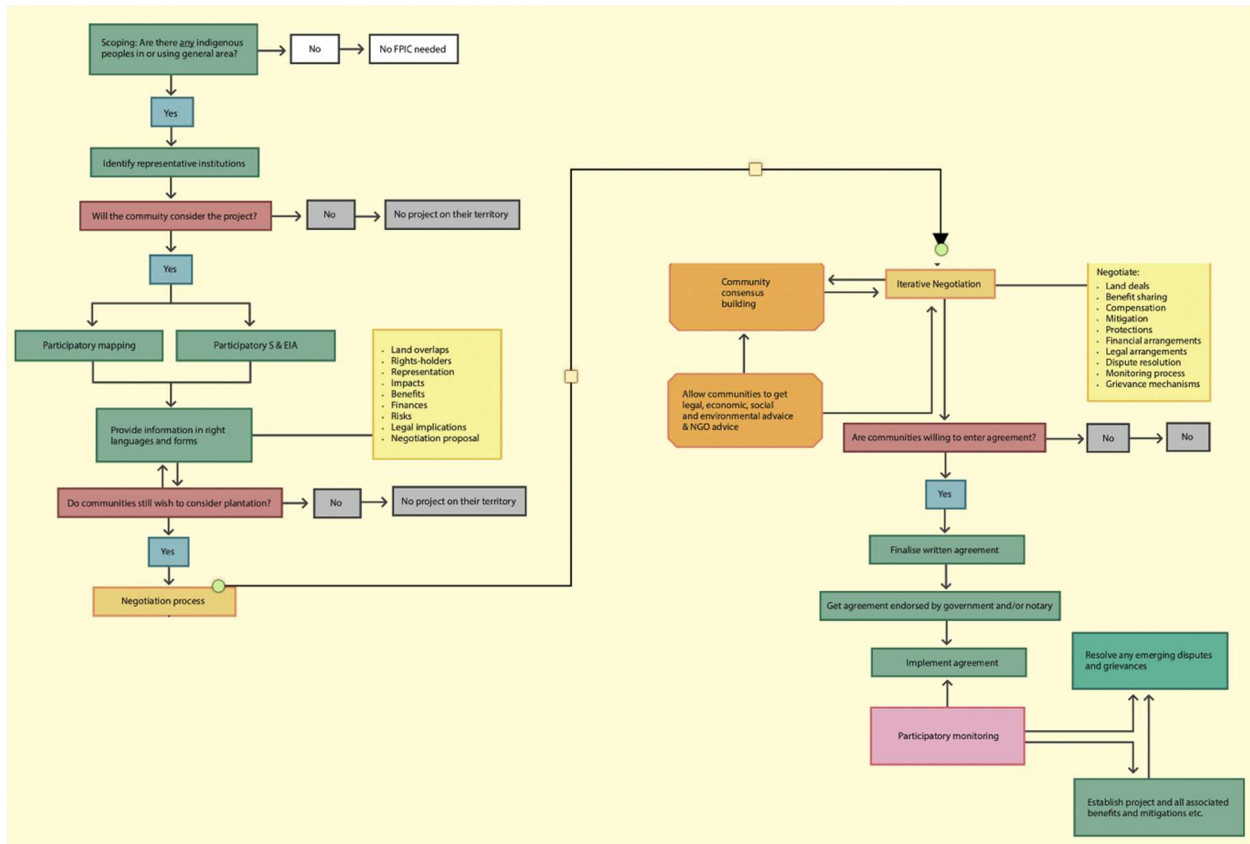
³⁶ The PTF will remain independent from the Executing Entity functions also performed by FAO

320. No project activities that may have adverse effects on community groups, including their lands, resources, or territories, will commence without a thorough consultation process. Information dissemination and disclosure of consultations will utilize appropriate and preferred communication channels to ensure accessibility, considering gender constraints. The consultation processes will be well-documented, respecting cultural protocols.
321. Terms of Reference (ToRs) for CPIU Gender, Social Inclusion and IP and ESS specialists will outline required competencies and responsibilities for implementing the environmental and social management plans, including monitoring and reporting on their implementation. FAO, as an accredited entity, will oversee project monitoring and reporting on environmental and social performance.
322. Participatory and transparent monitoring arrangements will be established with community groups, incorporating accessible and culturally appropriate feedback systems. The project will respect existing customary dispute settlement mechanisms for conflict resolution. Regular monitoring and an independent evaluation are recommended to ensure the effectiveness and responsiveness of the project to community needs.

7.7. Grievance process for indigenous communities

323. The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is a critical component of the project, tailored to ensure inclusivity and respect for all community members, given Somalia's makeup. For marginalized groups, establishing a GRM at the project level will involve comprehensive discussions and consensus with the communities as part of the consultation process. This may include forming a panel or committee comprising key community representatives and independent advisors, conducting periodic interviews with community members by third parties, and providing means for written and anonymous feedback. When communities prefer to utilize their customary grievance mechanisms, such preferences will be honored by FAO and other project stakeholders. The development and agreement on a local GRM will occur early in the project, following the determination of specific site locations and a thorough understanding of the community dynamics. The agreed-upon GRM with the communities will include:
- **Legitimacy:** Ensuring a clear, transparent, and sufficiently independent governance structure to prevent any undue influence over the grievance process.
 - **Accessibility:** Making the mechanism well-known to potential users and providing necessary support to overcome barriers to access, such as language, literacy, awareness, financial constraints, distance, or fear of reprisal.
 - **Predictability:** Outlining a clear procedure with defined timelines for each stage, the types of processes and outcomes available, and methods for monitoring the implementation of outcomes.
 - **Equitability:** Guaranteeing that aggrieved parties have reasonable access to information, advice, and expertise to participate fairly and effectively in the grievance process.
 - **Rights-compatible:** Ensuring outcomes and remedies align with internationally recognized human rights standards.
 - **Transparency:** Maintaining openness about the process and outcomes, particularly in terms of acknowledging complaints received and summarizing the outcomes, to address public interest concerns.
324. This GRM framework will be formalized in agreement with local community norms and international best practices to ensure an effective, fair, and transparent resolution of grievances.

Figure 13 Suggested steps for FPIC process³⁷



Source: Authors' own elaboration.

325. Before the commencement of any project activities, comprehensive FPIC processes will be undertaken within the relevant communities, ensuring the establishment of community specific GRMs. These mechanisms will be elaborated within any ESMPs developed for the project. The GRMs established through the FPIC process will adhere to the following principles, which complement the overarching guidelines previously outlined:

- **Respect for Customary Law:** Acknowledging and applying the community's traditional (oral or written) laws in resolving disputes.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Being mindful of and responsive to the community's norms and preferences.
- **Inclusivity and Accessibility:** Ensuring the mechanism is accessible to all community members, including women, youth, people with disabilities, and the elderly.
- **Transparency and Trust:** Facilitating open communication, demonstrating accountability, and engaging with the community in good faith.
- **Anonymity:** Offering options for anonymity to protect claimants who may be at risk by coming forward.
- **Timely Response:** Setting and adhering to a clear timeline for addressing grievances.

³⁷ Source: FAO. 2014. Respecting free, prior and informed consent, practical guidance for governments, companies, NGOs, Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Available at: <https://www.fao.org/3/i3496e/i3496e.pdf>

326. Budget considerations for implementing FPIC encompass the costs associated with documentation, food, transportation, and facilitation. Additionally, monitoring costs are integrated into the Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) component of the project, ensuring a comprehensive approach to project implementation and community engagement.

8. Expected project impacts

8.1. Overview of environmental and social impacts

327. Overall, the cumulative project impacts are expected to be positive, enhancing the resilience smallholder farmers to the impacts of climate change; reorienting key value chains towards climate-resilient and low-carbon pathways and promoting farmer-led adaptation and mitigation actions that are inclusive and gender-responsive. The project will foster the emergence of climate-resilient, low-carbon, environmentally sustainable, and financially viable agriculture value chains by accelerating the transfer of technology, knowledge, assets, and services with a focus on agri-food cooperatives as key agents to leverage rural change.

328. **Positive impacts:** The project is expected to improved resilience of the agricultural landscapes through appropriate planning strategies that are gender and socially responsive (consider needs of marginalized groups and minorities) and that integrate climate risk assessment and updated climate and agricultural information/database. Through climate-oriented farmer field schools (FFS) and improved, gender and social-responsive extension services, smallholders (men and women) will enhance their knowledge and improve access to inputs (e.g. technology and financial and non-financial services) that will enable them to adopt practices to improve their adaptive and coping capacity to climate change adverse impacts, decrease environmental degradation, improve forest cover, strengthen farmers organizational capacities, increase carbon sequestration and improve farmers livelihoods. Other positive impacts include improve access to climate information services (CIS); protect and conserve biodiversity and the ecosystem services, increased capacity of extension workers to provide better and more inclusive services to all (women, youth, PLWD), improve access to information to support farmers in making informed decisions and to adopt most suitable CRLSA practices. The project adaptation measures, such as the construction and/or rehabilitation of water conservation systems and promotion of irrigation efficiency infrastructure (water conservation and efficient irrigation systems) will support agriculture and farming activities, with potential yield increase and improve farmers livelihood. Furthermore, potential reduction on GHG emissions is expected through the promotion of renewable energy sources at various stages of the value chains. The project also engages women through a Gender Action Plan that ensures proactive mainstreaming of women into all activities, empowering women with agricultural skills and knowledge, and include on-going training to combat SEAH and GBV.

329. It is well documented that the practices promoted by the project have positive effect in promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, supporting stallholder farmers in improving their resilience through increase of productivity, yield, and income. Some of the benefit resulting from adoption of CRA include:

- **Adaptation:** maximize soil nutrients, improve soil fertility and quality; reduces pest and disease risks; increases efficiency in water (reduce water use); increased feed quality and quantity for livestock; contributes to reductions of on-farm organic waste and odors; facilitates the elimination of pathogens; improves quality and quantity of the feeds, others.
- **Mitigation:** maintains and/or improves soil carbon stocks and soil organic matter content; reduces the need for nitrogen fertilizers application (use leguminous crops); reduce nitrogen lost; contributes to increases of soil organic matter, maintaining soil carbon stock; reduces methane emissions; provides an alternative on-farm energy source, others.
- **Productivity:** Improves yields and income; contributes to product diversification; improve product quality.

330. **Potential Negative Impacts:** As the project involve rehabilitation/renovations (ref. Activity 2.1.2 and activity 2.3.4), triggering ESS1(1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.9), ESS2 (), ESS3 (), ESS4 (), ESS5 (), ESS6 () and ESS8) from low risk to moderate risk levels. Besides these activities, the project covers potential minor, mitigatable, and forecast only for the implementation/operation stages. From the social perspective, the project could exclude landless farmers and tenants; ethnic minorities/vulnerable groups; increase land tenure conflict; increased value of land due to heightened agricultural productivity and issues related to restrictions on land use and access to natural resources; increase GBVH within key value chain (VC). Due to country context, youth and children often assist with the farming work of their respective families, and there is a risk that these youngsters might work beyond what is age-appropriate (unless closely monitored). From the environmental perspective, increased agricultural production may result in the generation of new/additional environmental wastes; eutrophication issues or solid contamination due to inadequate or increase use of fertilizers that do not fully breakdown/decompose, as well as involuntary increase in the use of pesticides. Thus the project diverting to the alternative pathways of promoting more sustainable management of pest through IPM, agroecology and organic agriculture. Provision of seed, plantings and other plant or animal genetic resource might pose certain risks, even when the recommended species/inputs/breeds used will be those already adapted to the region and/or registered/certified in the country (no introduction of new species or exotic species will take place, refer to exclusion list), to further augment, certification of seeds is included in the project. Additionally, health, safety and occupational risk might derive from construction/rehabilitation of key infrastructures (barrage, canals and rural roads) and agro-processing facilities, and from agriculture work, which includes noise and air pollution, handling of waste and wastewater from the facilities, as well as exposure to physical and chemical hazards during operation of certain facilities (within value chain). Most of this risk are derived from the implementation of the activities and are considered as low-to-moderate risk, localized, temporary, and mitigatable through mitigation plans and adoption of international standards and good practices.

331. The following tables provide a summary of the main risks related to the environment (Table 9), to occupational, health and safety (Table 10) as well as community health and safety risks (Table 11) associated the value chains. For infrastructure work (rehabilitation/renovation), once the sites are determined, additional assessment will be conducted and ESMP prepared including activity-wise risks, mitigation measures, responsible party, budget and monitoring arrangements are listed under table 1 of appendix 12.

Table 9 Summary of main environmental risks related to the value chains

Environmental Risks	Annual & Perennial	Poultry & Livestock	Meat, Dairy, Food & Beverage Process
Physical and chemical degradation of soil erosion, compaction & sedimentation from unsustainable management techniques; overgrazing, excavation and construction work.	X	X	X
Non-crop wastes or hazardous wastes from the production systems (e.g., pesticide containers, waste pesticides, and packaging)	X	X	
Water pollution from agrochemicals (cause nutrient leeching and eutrophication of water bodies), and from effluents of food processing facilities	X		X
Direct and indirect impact on biodiversity and ecosystems: habitat conversion or degradation, increase water usage, introduction of invasive species, inappropriate cultivation techniques. Indirect impacts relate to immigration, and induced changes to access for traditional land uses (including hunting, fishing, and recreation)	X	X	
Loss of stored carbon in the land occurs primarily during harvest and farm establishment	X		

Increase GHG emissions , including methane, nitrous oxide, and carbon dioxide from different stages in the production cycle	X	X	
Increase use/consumption of water and energy for irrigation purposes, food processing, cleaning, etc.	X	X	X
Wastewater: Poultry operations may generate effluents from various sources including runoff from poultry housing, feeding, and watering; from waste storage and management facilities.		X	X
Air emissions: dust, from poultry production include primarily ammonia (e.g. management of animal waste), odors (e.g. animal housing and waste management), and dust (e.g. feed storage, loading and unloading, and waste management activities).	X	X	X
Hazardous materials: are used throughout the poultry production cycle (e.g. disinfecting agents, antibiotic and hormonal products). These materials include pesticides (applied to birds, barns, or housing units), can contaminate water and cause chronic or acute health hazards for humans.		X	
Exposure to biological agents & animal diseases: Exposure to a range of pathogens such as bacteria, fungi, mites and viruses (including “bird flu”) transmitted from live birds, excreta, carcasses and parasites and ticks. If antibiotics are used in feed antibiotic resistant micro-organisms might develop.		X	X

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

Table 10 Summary of main OHS related to the value chains

OHS Risks	Annual & Perennial	Livestock	Meet, Dairy, Food & Beverage Process
Physical hazards: Exposure to physical hazards related operation and repair of machinery, trip and falls, and lifting heavy weights; over-exposure to noise, vibration, and extreme or adverse weather conditions	X	X	X
Chemical hazard: Potential exposure to pesticides, disinfecting agents, minerals, antibiotic and hormonal products.	X	X	X
Confined and restricted space entry (e.g., processing bins and silos, water tanks, inadequately ventilated buildings, areas treated with pesticides, manure pits, etc.) include risk of asphyxiation; explosions due to gas, dust, or fumes; entrapment etc.	X	X	X
Accidents use of machinery & vehicles: from transportation of workers, farm tractors, harvesting and felling machinery; injury during inspection or repair of vehicles (e.g., vehicle lift not secured while personnel working underneath); entrapment due to unplanned starting, activation, or engagement of equipment (e.g., rollers).	X	X	X
Risk of fire and explosion: risks include fires resulting from the combustion of stored oil or crop residues, which can lead to a loss of property or	X		

cause possible injury to or fatality of project workers.			
Biological hazards: contact with venomous animals, such as stinging insects, spiders, scorpions, snakes, disease vectors (e.g., mosquitoes, ticks), and with certain wild mammals (e.g., tigers, wild pigs).	X		
Chemical hazards: Exposure to hazardous products including pesticides and herbicides, including dermal contact (during storage, preparation, mixing, application), inhalation (during preparation, mixing, and application and in storage rooms); ingestion (swallowing the pesticide or contaminated foodstuffs). Hazardous materials are used throughout the beef, milk, and pork production cycles (e.g. disinfecting agents, antibiotic and hormonal products).	X	X	X
Biological agents: Workers may be exposed to disease-agents such as bacteria, fungi, mites, and viruses transmitted from live animals, manure, animal carcasses, and parasites and ticks (zoonoses); as well as skin sensitizers such as animal proteins from urine that can cause an allergic reaction.		X	X
Machine/tool safety: Equipment safety issues are mainly associated with the use of knives, mechanical saws, packaging equipment, and mincers			X

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

Table 11 Summary of community health and safety risks related to the value chains

Community Health and Safety Risks	Annual & Perennial	Livestock	Meet, Dairy, Food & Beverage Process
Increased vulnerability and community safety related risks due to land use change or the loss of natural buffer areas; exposure to pesticides and its by-products,	X		
Potential exposure to pesticides (e.g., spray drift, improper disposal and use of packaging and containers) and presence of pesticides or by-products in potentially harmful concentrations in foodstuffs and postharvest products.	X		
Increased risk of vehicle or machinery injuries on roads and access routes around the community	X		
Potential exposure to pathogens, microbial contaminants and noxious odors associated with the use of manure, waste handling and wastewater effluents	X	X	X
Food and safety impacts development of antibiotic resistance by pathogenic bacteria		X	X
Concerning risks from the ingestion of hazardous substances in beef, milk, and pork, the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius provides guidance on veterinary drug residues and pesticide residues and contaminated or adulterated food products		X	X
General: Community health and safety impacts during the operation phase that are common to most industry sectors, including those related to traffic safety during transport of raw materials and	X	X	X

finished product, noise, excavation, construction, and rehabilitation of facilities (processing plants, slaughterhouses)			
--	--	--	--

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

8.2. Breakdown of impact by outcome/output

332. Within the project, the anticipated positive impacts and possible negative effects are organized and detailed by component in the tables below:

Table 12 Breakdown of impact by outcome

Outcome 1: Restored landscapes are resilient and sustainably managed

Project activity	Applicable FAO standards	Impacts
Output 1.1 Improved participatory landscape and natural resources management and governance are established at watershed and village levels		
<p>Activity 1.1.1 Strengthen the information base for climate-informed local land use planning</p> <p>Activity 1.1.2 Develop climate-informed inclusive landscape management plans</p>	<p>ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6, ESS7, ESS8 and ESS9</p>	<p>Activity 1.1.1 will improve the availability of data related to land cover/ areas affected by land degradation linking with climate parameters as well as conduct an assessment of invasion of Prosopis, which will help determine priority interventions. Based on these assessments, Activity 1.1.2 will provide support to Landscape Management Committee for the design of an inclusive landscape management plan, which involves women, youth, and minority groups, carries a set of positive and negative impacts. On the positive side, the initiative ensures a broad and diverse representation in the planning process, promoting equity and inclusiveness. By mapping existing natural resources through a participatory approach, the project empowers all community members to contribute to and feel ownership over the resulting plans. Developing instruments to assess the use of natural resources, such as animal feed and cropping calendars, enhances the community's ability to manage their resources sustainably and efficiently. Identifying various grassroots organizations involved in natural resource management fosters collaboration and leverages local knowledge, while identifying site-specific sustainable soil and land management techniques contributes to environmental conservation and the resilience of ecosystems in arid and semi-arid areas.</p> <p>The inclusion of Prosopis management plans within the landscape management strategies further strengthens these positive impacts. These plans help identify priority areas for intervention, facilitate land restoration, and promote the planting of indigenous tree species, thereby building resilient livelihoods for communities. Early engagement with landowners, farmers, and communities ensures that land use decisions are made collaboratively and inclusively. Reducing dense Prosopis cover and introducing alternative income-generating activities through the planting of indigenous plants and species support both environmental and economic goals. Additionally, the development of agroforestry systems, including fodder shrubs and fruit trees, and the further integration of agriculture and livestock systems through multipurpose tree species, enhance biodiversity and ecological sustainability.</p>

		<p>However, these initiatives may also have negative impacts if not carefully implemented. The broad and inclusive engagement necessary for designing landscape management plans can be challenging to achieve, potentially leaving out some voices if outreach and participation efforts are not sufficiently comprehensive or sensitive to community dynamics. The focus on specific management techniques and species, including the control of Prosopis and the introduction of multipurpose tree species, must be carefully managed to avoid unintended ecological imbalances or displacements of existing species. Moreover, the transition to new management practices and species may require significant adaptation efforts from the community, which could lead to resistance or challenges in adoption without adequate support and capacity building. Therefore, while the design of inclusive landscape management plans presents numerous benefits for community engagement, environmental sustainability, and economic development, it necessitates careful planning and implementation to mitigate potential challenges and ensure the successful realization of its goals.</p>
--	--	--

Output 1.2 Agricultural and Agropastoral Landscapes are restored and under sustainable management

<p>Activity 1.2.1: Conduct landscape restoration through local landscape management committees and community-based associations</p>	<p>ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS5, ESS6, ESS7, ESS8 and ESS9</p>	<p>This will provide support to communities for the implementation of the landscape management plan developed under Activity 1.1.2 will have a series of positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts include enhancing the communities' ability to address climate change challenges effectively. For instance, facilitating grassland improvement through the provision of fodder seeds and trainings will improve livestock nutrition and productivity. The construction of soil and land management infrastructure, such as runoff diversion structures and flood management systems, will significantly enhance water conservation and soil health, mitigating the impacts of climate change. Additionally, managing Prosopis and developing agroforestry systems will contribute to ecosystem restoration, biodiversity enhancement, and the diversification of community livelihoods. The involvement of the Government of Somalia, with funding from the World Bank for the "Water for Agro-Pastoral Productivity and Resilience" project, ensures financial and technical support for these initiatives, promising sustainable development and resilience building within the communities.</p> <p>However, these initiatives might also carry negative impacts if not carefully managed. The introduction of new agricultural practices and species through agroforestry and grassland improvement efforts requires significant community adaptation and may disrupt traditional farming and pastoral practices. The implementation may result in activities that access genetic resources for their utilization.</p> <p>Project supported activities designed within landscape management plan may involve: (i) the introduction of crops and varieties not previously grown; (ii) providing seeds/planting material for cultivation; and (iii) establishment or management of planted forests. Furthermore, while government involvement ensures support, the need for further discussions to define specific activities highlights the potential for delays or misalignments in project goals and local community needs. Thus, while the support for implementing landscape management plans presents numerous opportunities for environmental conservation and community development, it</p>
---	---	--

		necessitates thoughtful planning, community engagement, and adaptive management to navigate potential challenges and ensure the initiative's success.
--	--	---

Outcome 2: Local livelihoods are resilient to climate change

Project activity	Applicable FAO standards	Impacts
Output 2.1 Resilient water supply is secured and sustainably managed.		
Activity 2.1.1 Strengthen water management capacity at State and local level	ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6, ESS8 and ESS9	<p>Strengthening the capacity of actors at state and local level including state ministries of water resource/irrigation development and existing Farmers' associations, cooperatives & water committees that work on water management will lead to several positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts include enhancing the technical expertise of communities around some canals which currently lack sufficient knowledge in maintenance and associated financial mechanisms. By providing training to farmers' associations and water committees, these essential bodies will be equipped to continue operation and maintenance (O&M) activities after the project intervention concludes. The improvement in water management is expected to lead to an increase in production, thereby generating more financial resources. Consequently, irrigation committees will have increased financial means to allocate towards O&M and future rehabilitation works. Despite not being fully functional at present, water committees possess the capacity and local knowledge required to manage irrigation infrastructure in project target areas effectively. Strengthening the water committees' ability in water accounting will play a critical role in ensuring the sustainable use of irrigation water.</p> <p>However, this approach also encompasses negative impacts if not meticulously implemented. There's a risk that focusing on specific groups for capacity building could inadvertently marginalize others within the community who do not directly participate in these associations or committees. This could lead to disparities in knowledge and capabilities within the broader community, potentially exacerbating existing inequalities. Moreover, while increasing financial resources through improved production is beneficial, it requires careful financial management to ensure these resources are sustainably invested in O&M and rehabilitation works. Without adequate oversight and accountability mechanisms, there's a possibility of misallocation or inefficient use of these funds. Additionally, emphasizing water accounting and technical capacity might overshadow the importance of integrating traditional water management practices and knowledge, which have historically contributed to the sustainable use of resources. Thus, while bolstering the capacity of farmers' associations and water committees promises substantial benefits in terms of water management and agricultural productivity, it necessitates a balanced and inclusive approach to avoid negative repercussions and ensure long-term sustainability.</p>
Activity 2.1.2 Increase access to water resources and climate-	ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6, ESS8 and ESS9	Rehabilitating irrigation schemes and investing in water-saving technologies to address the drying of both the Shabelle and Juba rivers, and to better manage available surface water resources in a context of recurrent droughts, carry a mix of positive and

<p>smart irrigation infrastructure</p>		<p>negative impacts. The positive impacts involve the enhancement of irrigation infrastructure (barrage and canals), which is currently underperforming and in need of rehabilitation. This project's funding will aid in the rehabilitation of hydraulic infrastructure, leading to improved water management that, in turn, will boost production at the farm level under riverine irrigation. Potential sub-activities like rehabilitating secondary and tertiary canals damaged after flooding, constructing small-scale water storage reservoirs, and investing in water-saving technologies such as drip irrigation will complement previous interventions in flood-prone areas and increase resilience to future droughts. Additionally, providing power batteries for existing solar systems to enable night-time irrigation and upscaling the use of solar power will expand the total irrigated land area in project target areas. Support for beneficiaries to create a fee mechanism for the maintenance of irrigation and drainage canals is also envisaged. A feasibility study to identify canals for rehabilitation in flood-prone areas further ensures targeted and effective interventions.</p> <p>However, these initiatives may also lead to negative impacts if not carefully managed. The rehabilitation of irrigation schemes and the introduction of new technologies could potentially disrupt traditional farming practices and local ecosystems if not aligned with the needs and capacities of the farming communities. The reliance on modern technologies, such as solar power and drip irrigation, requires significant upfront investment and ongoing maintenance, which may be challenging for some farmers without adequate support. Additionally, creating a fee mechanism for maintenance could impose financial burdens on smallholder farmers, potentially excluding those who cannot afford to pay. Furthermore, while seeking co-financing expands project capabilities, it necessitates detailed coordination and agreement with co-financiers, which could delay project implementation. Therefore, while the rehabilitation of irrigation schemes and investment in water-saving technologies offer considerable benefits in terms of improved water management and increased agricultural productivity, they require thoughtful planning and inclusive implementation strategies to mitigate potential drawbacks and ensure sustainable outcomes for all stakeholders involved.</p> <p>Also refer to Appendix 12.</p>
--	--	---

Output 2.2 Locally-specific Climate Resilient Agriculture practices are adopted

<p>Activity 2.2.1 Disseminate CRA practices to farmers</p> <p>Activity 2.2.2 Build the capacity of GoS-MoAI at Local, State and Federal level to support communities in the adoption of CRA practices</p>	<p>ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6 and ESS8</p>	<p>Improving farmers' capacity to implement climate resilient agriculture (CRA) through various means including awareness sessions and training workshops carries positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts of such initiatives are significant. They foster a greater understanding among communities about the challenges and solutions related to climate change, empowering individuals with the knowledge to make informed decisions and take action in their daily lives and agricultural practices. Furthermore, building the capacity of MoAI and local-level extension services in climate-resilient agricultural technologies equips farmers with practical techniques to enhance the sustainability and resilience of their farming practices. The training of trainers using the Farmer Field School (FFS) approach ensures that knowledge is disseminated</p>
---	---	---

		<p>effectively across communities, promoting widespread adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.</p> <p>However, these efforts may also encounter negative impacts. There's a possibility that training workshops and radio programs might not fully resonate with all community members, especially if the content does not adequately reflect the local context or fails to engage the audience in a meaningful way. Additionally, while building the capacity of local-level extension services is crucial, there may be challenges in ensuring that the training is accessible to all extension agents, particularly in areas with limited resources or where agents have varying levels of education and expertise. There's also the risk that the introduction of new agricultural technologies and practices could be met with resistance from farmers accustomed to traditional methods, particularly if the benefits of these new practices are not immediately apparent or if they require significant changes to established farming routines. Thus, while raising awareness and building capacity are essential steps towards fostering climate resilience, these activities must be carefully designed and implemented to ensure they effectively engage and benefit all community members, facilitating a smooth transition to more sustainable and resilient agricultural practices.</p>
<p>Output 2.3 Additional income for farmers is derived from climate resilient value chains</p>		
<p>Activity 2.3.1 Improve access to climate resilient inputs for crop and livestock production</p>	<p>ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6 and ESS8</p>	<p>Strengthening the capacity of farmers' associations to produce and multiply improved drought-tolerant local varieties of crops, in partnership with research centers, universities, or private companies, introduces a range of positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts of this initiative are substantial, as it directly addresses the need for resilience in the face of climate change and recurrent droughts. By focusing on the production and multiplication of drought-tolerant crop varieties, farmers are better equipped to maintain productivity even under challenging environmental conditions. The use of foundation seeds provided by research centers or private companies ensures that farmers have access to high-quality genetic materials that are adapted to local conditions. Additionally, the guidance provided by universities, research centers, or private companies in adopting appropriate cropping patterns and meeting pre-requisites for improved seed production enhances the overall agricultural output and sustainability. The selection of main staple crops, such as maize and sorghum, along with cash crops like sesame, specifically tailored to the agro-ecological zones of Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba, and Togdheer, promises to boost food security and economic growth within these communities.</p> <p>However, this approach may also have negative impacts if not carefully managed. The reliance on external partners for basic seeds could lead to dependency, potentially undermining local seed-saving practices and traditional knowledge systems. There is also the risk that the introduction of improved varieties may inadvertently reduce agricultural biodiversity by displacing traditional crop varieties that possess unique cultural and nutritional values. Furthermore, ensuring that all farmers, especially those with limited resources, can meet the pre-requisites for improved seed production may pose challenges, potentially exacerbating existing inequalities within farming communities. Lastly, the focus on specific crops and varieties may not align with all farmers' preferences or market demands, leading to issues with crop marketability or acceptance among</p>

		<p>local consumers. Thus, while the initiative to enhance the production of drought-tolerant crops offers significant benefits in terms of enhancing agricultural resilience and productivity, it requires a balanced approach that considers potential drawbacks and seeks to mitigate them through inclusive planning and implementation.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3.2 Build the capacity of producer groups to develop sustainable climate-informed business plans</p>	<p>ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8</p>	<p>Building the capacity of producer groups to develop sustainable climate informed business plans in the target project areas, around the value chain of multiple products including agriculture crops, livestock as well as NTFPs that are delivered through landscape management carries both positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts include bolstering the resilience of agriculture and livestock farming against the backdrop of recurrent droughts/floods. The plan provide opportunity to foresee, coordinate and invest systematically. The plan can foster investment perspective rather than subsidy and lead to sustainability and self reliance as well as serving integral part of the coping strategy. This can also support linking crop/fodder seed producers to agro-dealers facilitates access to crucial inputs, while training private sector players improves service delivery and bolsters the viability of their enterprises. The plans can also support replication/upscaling proactive measure to mitigate the negative impacts of droughts on crops, livestock, supporting the livelihoods of farmers and contributing to the stability of food systems.</p> <p>However, the initiative may also lead to negative impacts if not carefully managed. Concentrating mainly on cash crops, etc. while ignoring the biodiversity and ecosystem services in the business planning may adversely affect the landscape in longer term. Carrying capacity of the landscape on one hand and ensuring of the equitable participation of the women and disadvantaged groups is essential. Skewed focus on enhanced production could risk diverting resources and attention from other essential agricultural practices or native biodiversity conservation efforts. Dependence on introduced varieties might reduce the genetic diversity of native varieties if not managed within an integrated land-use planning framework. Training and linking with private sector players is beneficial but requires continuous engagement and support to ensure long-term sustainability beyond the project's lifespan. Thus, while supporting business plans development resilience and economic stability, it necessitates a balanced approach to address potential environmental and social challenges effectively.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3.3 Increase MSME, cooperatives and farming group access to agricultural finance</p>	<p>ESS2, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8</p>	<p>Supporting MSME, cooperatives and farming group in accessing to agricultural finance by linking these groups to local micro-finance institutions, which is identified and assessed in a study under the SCALA facility, carries both positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts include enhancing financial literacy and savings habits among community members, particularly those involved in Farmer Field Schools (FFS) groups. The VSLA approach encourages members to save and lend within a trusted group framework, fostering a culture of financial responsibility and mutual support. Benefiting from capacity development activities, these groups can build a solid foundation of financial knowledge and skills, contributing to their economic empowerment. After 3 to 4 years, with increased knowledge and capacity, linking VSLAs to micro-finance institutions will further promote financial inclusion, allowing members to access larger loans for personal or business</p>

		<p>purposes. This connection to formal financial services can significantly improve their ability to invest in agriculture, start or expand small businesses, and enhance their overall economic stability.</p> <p>However, the initiative may also encounter negative impacts. The transition from a self-managed savings group to interfacing with formal financial institutions could pose challenges for VSLA members unfamiliar with or intimidated by more complex financial products and regulations. There's a risk that without adequate ongoing support, some groups may struggle to navigate these new financial landscapes successfully, potentially leading to issues of over-indebtedness if loans are not managed prudently. Additionally, the criteria for loan access and the terms of these loans must be carefully considered to ensure they are accessible and fair to VSLA members, avoiding the imposition of onerous conditions that could negate the benefits of financial inclusion. Therefore, while the promotion of VSLAs and their linkage to micro-finance institutions offers significant opportunities for enhancing financial inclusion and economic empowerment, it requires careful planning, adequate support, and monitoring to ensure that these benefits are realized sustainably and equitably among all participants.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3.4 Increase all-season access to market for smallholder producers, cooperatives and farmer groups</p>	<p>ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8 and ESS9</p>	<p>Improving access to markets by rehabilitating rural roads and establishing intermediary markets at district levels or regrouping points at village levels for small ruminants carries both positive and negative impacts. Positive impacts include significantly enhancing the mobility and market access for rural communities, thereby improving the economic prospects for farmers and livestock keepers. By rehabilitating roads with a focus on adapting to climate change, the initiative ensures that these routes are resilient to future climate risks and land degradation, facilitating safer and more reliable transport of goods and livestock. Establishing intermediary markets improves the supply chain efficiency, allowing for better price realization for small ruminant producers and enhancing the overall economic development of rural areas. The application of new standards for adaptation under activity 1.2.2 ensures that the routes chosen for rehabilitation are those that optimally mitigate the impacts of degraded land and anticipate future climate challenges. The support from FAO through the EU-funded project CadRe underscores the commitment to finance and implement these crucial infrastructural improvements.</p> <p>However, these initiatives may also encounter negative impacts. The process of rehabilitating roads and establishing new markets requires careful planning to avoid disrupting existing ecosystems and local communities. Without inclusive consultation and engagement with local stakeholders, there's a risk that the chosen routes and market locations may not fully align with the needs or preferences of the communities they aim to serve. Additionally, the focus on infrastructure for livestock transportation could inadvertently prioritize certain economic activities over others, potentially neglecting the needs of those engaged in non-livestock agricultural practices. There's also the environmental consideration that construction activities, if not managed sustainably, could contribute to further land degradation or environmental harm. Therefore, while improving access to markets through road rehabilitation and the establishment of intermediary markets presents numerous benefits in terms of economic development and climate resilience, it requires a balanced and environmentally sensitive</p>

		approach to mitigate potential drawbacks and ensure the initiative's success benefits all stakeholders equitably. Care has to be administered that the infrastructure in no way affect the cultural heritage.
--	--	---

Outcome 3: An improved institutional enabling environment for sustainable landscape management and climate resilient agriculture is in place at State and Federal Levels

Project activity	Applicable FAO standards	Impacts
Output 3.1 Legal frameworks and implementation modalities for NRM and CRA are improved		
Activity 3.1.1 Update legal and institutional frameworks for sustainable landscape management	ESS1, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8	<p>This sub-component will improve the enabling environment by promoting EbA and CRA as a key instruments for climate change adaptation within national policies. The ultimate goal of mainstreaming EbA and CRA is to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, longevity of EbA principles by embedding its practices into policies, sectoral planning and financing – including government budget – hence contributing to CRA and EbA paradigm shift and sustainability. Conducting an assessment to list and analyze the existing enforcement modalities of climate change adaptation and environment-related interventions across various sectors carries both positive and negative impacts. Positive impacts include providing a comprehensive understanding of the current state of policy implementation related to climate change adaptation and environmental protection. This assessment ensures that implementation plans are not only designed but also appropriately funded, and checks for the existence of decrees that support policy design. By examining whether the institutional setup has evolved to enforce strategies and policies effectively, the assessment can identify gaps and opportunities for strengthening the overall framework for climate action. This critical analysis can lead to more effective and coherent policy enforcement, enhancing the capacity of various sectors to respond to environmental challenges and implement adaptation strategies successfully.</p> <p>However, the initiative may also lead to negative impacts if the findings of the assessment are not properly managed or acted upon. Highlighting deficiencies in policy enforcement and institutional frameworks might reveal significant gaps or shortcomings that require substantial resources and political will to address. If the assessment uncovers a lack of coordination among sectors or insufficient funding, it could potentially demotivate stakeholders or lead to criticism of current efforts without providing immediate solutions. Additionally, the process of adapting institutional setups based on the assessment's findings could be slow and complex, potentially delaying immediate action needed to combat climate change and protect the environment. Therefore, while conducting such an assessment is crucial for understanding and improving the enforcement of climate change adaptation and environmental interventions, it necessitates careful consideration of how</p>

		to use its findings constructively to foster positive change without undermining current efforts or stakeholder engagement.
Activity 3.1.2 Strengthen policy dialogue and coordination between sectoral ministries at State levels	ESS1, ESS2, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8	<p>Identifying and assessing the existing coordination mechanisms at the federal, state, and local level, with a focus on South West, Somaliland, and Puntland, and reviewing the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for each mechanism, followed by an analysis of their results, impacts, and the effectiveness of the institutional setup, involves positive and negative impacts. Positive impacts include enhancing understanding of how coordination mechanisms currently operate within Somalia's complex governance landscape. This detailed review and analysis can highlight strengths and reveal gaps in existing structures, providing a foundation for strengthening intergovernmental collaboration and policy coherence. By focusing on specific regions, the assessment ensures that regional peculiarities and needs are considered, promoting tailored improvements. Additionally, evaluating the results and impacts of these mechanisms allows for evidence-based decision-making, potentially leading to more efficient and effective governance structures that can better address the country's challenges, including those related to climate change and development.</p> <p>However, the process might also have negative impacts if not carefully managed. The act of scrutinizing existing coordination mechanisms could uncover deep-seated issues of inefficiency or ineffectiveness, which might be challenging to address without significant institutional reform. There's a risk that the findings could lead to political sensitivities, especially if certain mechanisms or institutional setups are found to be lacking. This could potentially slow down the process of implementing necessary reforms. Additionally, the focus on assessing coordination mechanisms might momentarily divert attention and resources from other urgent governance or development activities. Ensuring that the assessment does not disrupt ongoing projects or lower morale among stakeholders involved in these coordination mechanisms requires tactful management and clear communication about the ultimate goals of the process. Therefore, while identifying and assessing coordination mechanisms is crucial for improving governance and institutional effectiveness, it necessitates a thoughtful approach to address potential challenges and ensure that the process leads to constructive outcomes.</p>
Activity 3.1.3 Strengthen the capacity of MoECC to manage, monitor and govern natural resources and implement Ecosystem-based Adaptation	ESS1, ESS2, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8	Building capacity of MoECC will lead to positive impacts that would ensure the sustainability of improved natural resources management. The development of the implementation plan for the National Environmental Management and Protection Act and the support in operationalizing the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment regulations would enhance the country's capacity to manage environmental and social risks.

		The capacity building needs to be designed in a way that MoECC will ensure inclusiveness in natural resources management to avoid any negative impacts.
Activity 3.1.4 Build capacity for the monitoring, assessment, analysis and early warning related to the impacts of climate on food security, climate	ESS1, ESS2, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8	The activity will enhance the capacity of key actors to monitor and assess climate impacts on food and nutrition security, which would mainly bring positive impacts. Early warning related to the impact of climate on food security can be used by communities to take precautional actions. However, in order to bring positive impacts, information will need to be well disseminated to the communities through appropriate channels, by taking into account the information sources/types commonly used by communities depending on gender, types of livelihoods, location and age.
Activity 3.1.5 Build capacity of MoAI for climate informed irrigation planning	ESS1, ESS2, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8	Build capacity of MoAI for climate informed irrigation planning on water management will lead mainly to positive impacts that include enhancing the technical expertise to plan and monitor climate resilient and social compatible irrigation planning. MoAI will be well-equipped to provide training to farmers' associations and water committees, these essential bodies will be able to continue operation and maintenance (O&M) activities after the project intervention concludes. The improvement in water management is expected to lead to an increase in production, thereby generating more financial resources. Despite not being fully functional at present, water committees possess the capacity and local knowledge required to manage irrigation infrastructure in project target areas effectively. Strengthening the water committees' ability in water accounting will play a critical role in ensuring the sustainable use of irrigation water. However, this approach also encompasses negative impacts if not meticulously implemented. There's a risk that focusing on MoAI for capacity building could inadvertently marginalize others (women, minorities) within the community who do not directly interact with MoAI. This could lead to disparities in knowledge and capabilities within the broader community, potentially exacerbating existing inequalities. Additionally, emphasizing water accounting and technical capacity might overshadow the importance of integrating traditional water management practices and knowledge, which have historically contributed to the sustainable use of resources. Thus, while bolstering the capacity of MoAI promises substantial benefits in terms of water management and agricultural productivity, it necessitates a balanced and inclusive approach to avoid negative repercussions and ensure inclusion of women, minorities/Indigenous Peoples, while ensuring long-term sustainability and safeguarding biodiversity and habitat loss.
Output 3.2 Increased Access to Climate Information Among Last Mile Users		
Activity 3.2.1 Collect, disseminate and share relevant climate and land data to support decision making, early warning and early action at all levels.	ESS1, ESS6, ESS7 and ESS8	Strengthening the capacity of the existing Information Management Centres (SWALIM) to provide climate services to farmers and agro-pastoralists on a regular basis involves both positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts include enhancing the accessibility and reliability of climate information for those directly

		<p>dependent on agriculture and pastoralism for their livelihoods. By receiving timely and accurate climate services, farmers and agro-pastoralists can make informed decisions regarding crop planting, water management, and livestock care, thereby increasing agricultural productivity and resilience to climate variability and change. Strengthened capacity at SWALIM ensures that climate services are not only regular but also tailored to the specific needs of the agricultural community, contributing to food security and livelihood sustainability. Additionally, this initiative can foster stronger connections between climate scientists, information managers, and the agricultural community, promoting a culture of knowledge sharing and collaborative problem-solving.</p> <p>However, the initiative might also encounter negative impacts. Expanding the capacity of SWALIM to deliver these services requires significant resources, including technological investments and training for personnel, which could strain limited budgets. There's a risk that, without adequate support, the quality of services might not meet the high standards needed for effective climate risk management. Furthermore, ensuring that climate services reach all farmers and agro-pastoralists, especially those in remote or underserved areas, presents a logistical challenge. There's also the potential for information overload or the dissemination of complex data that may not be easily understood by all recipients, reducing the effectiveness of these services in aiding decision-making. Therefore, while strengthening SWALIM's capacity to provide regular climate services offers substantial benefits for agricultural productivity and climate resilience, it necessitates careful planning, effective communication strategies, and sustained investment to overcome potential challenges and ensure the wide-reaching impact of these services.</p>
--	--	--

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

9. Mitigation measures and approach to enhance positive impacts

333. This section outlines mitigation measures and approaches to enhance positive impacts for potential negative environmental and social impacts identified in Chapter 8. These measures (see Table 13) are part of a broader approach to risk management, contingent upon the outcomes of environmental and social screenings. Such screenings will determine if the risks listed in the table below manifest in specific project locales.

Table 13 Summary of main mitigation measures & monitoring arrangements

Potential environmental / social impacts	Potential mitigation measures	Responsibility for implementation	Monitoring indicators	Monitoring frequency
<p>Risks of child and forced labor</p> <p>ESS4. Decent work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement and monitor the Labour Management Plan (LMP) ▪ Set-up of a workers' GRM to ensure their voices / complaints are heard ▪ Contractor to maintain staff records, ID copies 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Labor register showing age and sex of persons engaged ▪ Worker's GRM in place ▪ # of child and forced labor reported ▪ % of workers that have been provided with hearing protection ▪ # of equipment with vibration-dampening pads or devices ▪ # of temporary shelters available ▪ # of trainings for industrial vehicle operators conducted ▪ % of heavy vehicle operators that have been subjected to 	Throughout project implementation
<p>Lack of occupational health and safety (OHS) for workers deployed at construction sites</p> <p>ESS4. Decent work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide hearing protection where necessary (when sound level over 8 hours reaches 85 dB(A)) ▪ Use of acoustic insulating materials, isolation of noise source, and other engineering controls ▪ Control vibration through choice of equipment, installation of vibration dampening pads or devices, and limiting the duration of exposure ▪ Provide temporary shelters to protect against the elements during working activities or for use as rest areas. 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of workers that have been provided with hearing protection ▪ # of equipment with vibration-dampening pads or devices ▪ # of temporary shelters available ▪ # of trainings for industrial vehicle operators conducted ▪ % of heavy vehicle operators that have been subjected to medical surveillance ▪ # of site speed limit signs at construction site ▪ # of rest and stretching breaks per work day ▪ # of trainings for workers per site ▪ # of workplace accidents recorded 	Monthly

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitor weather forecast for outdoor work ▪ Adjust work and rest periods according to temperature ▪ Training and licensing of industrial vehicle operators in the safe operation of specialized vehicles. ▪ Establish rights of way, site speed limits, vehicle inspection requirements, operating rules, and procedures ▪ Use of mechanical assists to eliminate or reduce exertions required to lift materials, hold tools, and work objects ▪ Incorporate rest and stretching breaks into work processes and conduct job rotation 			
<p>Poor working conditions: unsafe work environment due to large workforce</p> <p>ESS4. Decent work</p> <p>ESS5. Community health, safety, and security</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement and monitor the Labour Management Plan (LMP) ▪ Prepare District Security Risk Assessment ▪ Prepare local Security Management plan (SMP) ▪ Contractor to prepare local Activity Security Plan ▪ Implementation of SMP and local Activity Security Plan 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A record of safety talks conducted – as part of the OHS Plan ▪ PPE provided ▪ Lost time incidents or near miss incidents recorded ▪ Training provided on OHS ▪ # District Security Risk Assessments ▪ # of Local Security Management Plans ▪ # of Local Activity Security Plans 	Prior to commencement of activity
<p>Activities include a construction component with a work force</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular review and provision of PPE to the project sites. The PPE 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of regular reviews conducted 	Monthly

<p>ESS4. Decent work</p> <p>ESS5. Community health, safety, and security</p>	<p>includes but not limited to safety boots, safety goggles, hard hats, gloves, dust masks, reflective jackets, overalls, and dust coats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workers' GRM in place ▪ Regular fire drills 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of grievances logged ▪ # of fire drills conducted 	
<p>Generation of solid waste</p> <p>ESS2. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appropriate designated areas for disposal of solid waste shall be identified consistent with the local and international requirements ▪ Implement solid waste management plan 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Record of actual sites 	Monthly
<p>Generation of dust and noise</p> <p>Increased levels of vibration from construction machinery</p> <p>Project to produce air pollution</p> <p>ESS2. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High level maintenance of the vehicles to reduce the vibrations ▪ Selecting equipment with lower sound power levels ▪ Installing suitable mufflers on engine exhausts and compressor components ▪ Planning activities in consultation with local communities so that activities with the greatest potential to generate noise are planned during periods of the day that will result in least disturbance 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of vehicles well maintained ▪ % of engine exhausts with mufflers installed ▪ % of activities implemented during the days ▪ Monitoring of air and noise pollutants 	Throughout project implementation
<p>Project to produce effluents (waste water)</p> <p>Activity result in soil erosion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Given the nature of construction waste, ensure proper collection, storage, and disposal methods to prevent contamination of local water sources 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of construction materials left over at the end ▪ % of waste at construction site is disposed of appropriately 	Throughout project implementation

<p>ESS2. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schedule regular cleaning to reduce the chance of waste entering the local water system ▪ Provide training of best practices in handling and disposing of construction waste 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of waste bins available at construction sites ▪ # or % of vendors who have undergone and completed training 	
<p>Increased GBV/SEAH cases ESS6. Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation and monitoring of GBV / SEA Action Plan ▪ GBV awareness sessions for community ▪ GBV awareness sessions for workers ▪ Workers to sign Code of Conduct (COC) 	<p>FAO/Contractor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activities under GBV/SEA Action Plan implemented ▪ # of GBV awareness sessions ▪ # of sessions ▪ # of specialist's engagement ▪ % of workers that have signed CoC 	<p>Monthly</p>
<p>Inadequate, ineffective, and inappropriate stakeholder and community engagements and disclosure of information can lead to the exclusion of truly vulnerable, marginalized and minority members of the community from project benefits, amplified by the context of limited resources against widespread need</p> <p>Poor access to beneficiaries leads to less meaningful community engagements and difficulty in monitoring for social harm</p> <p>ESS6. Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation and monitoring of GRM ▪ Implementation of Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) 	<p>FAO/Contractor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of complaints filed have been addressed ▪ # of site-specific incident logs ▪ # of GRM cases filed ▪ # of stakeholder engagements conducted 	<p>Monthly</p>

ESS8. Indigenous Peoples				
<p>Blocked access to people in the area</p> <p>Traffic and road safety hazards</p> <p>ESS4. Decent work</p> <p>ESS5. Community health, safety, and security</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Undertake safety precautions to address safety hazards for the nearby community, including, safety/warning signage, safety barrier around the construction site, and safe driving practices ▪ Safety barrier around the construction site and safe driving practices ▪ Informing public about potential construction risks ▪ Safe driving practices 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of grievances logged ▪ Safety warning signs in place ▪ Traffic management plan in place ▪ Training for road workers on risks conducted ▪ GRM in place 	Monthly
<p>Upsetting of community dynamics and perpetuated clashes and animosity exacerbating social and environmental fragility</p> <p>Harmful inward migration as the project will mainly operate in a small number of sites relative to immense and widespread need, possibility of population influx from neighbouring district and locations</p> <p>ESS 1. Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selection of priority areas guided by findings and recommendations ▪ Proper and transparent targeting of vulnerable populations, ensuring inclusion in particular for displaced populations, for cash-based interventions and the small amount of transfers is seen as a mitigating measure against harmful inward migration 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report indicating selected areas based on FINA findings ▪ Checklist developed to show selection of vulnerable populations 	Prior to start of interventions

ESS7. Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement				
<p>Irrigation water with high Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) may lead to salinization of the soils.</p> <p>ESS 1. Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct analysis of irrigation water to ensure water with TDS above 1,500ppm is not used for irrigation 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of irrigation water in place 	During and after implementation
<p>Erosion and sedimentation of rivers from earth works and run-off during the construction phase</p> <p>ESS 1. Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where feasible, practice minimal or no vegetation disturbance during the implementation of the project, avoid exposing the soils to external weather conditions Implement soil control measures 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TSS levels in potentially affected rivers close to baseline status Implementation of soil erosion control measures as applicable to the sub-project 	As necessary
<p>Risk of use uncertified/unregistered varieties and genetic material (plants & animals) and onset or spread of animal disease, Potential exposure to pathogens, microbial contaminants</p> <p>ESS 1. Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources</p> <p>ESS2. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only use native species and/or locally developed varieties that are registered (see negative list in Annex 1 for more details). When deemed necessary, screening by FAO's technical unit on plant protection (AGPM) will be conducted Establish and follow bio-safety protocols in entire operation chain and production facilities: control farm animals, equipment, personnel, and wild or domestic animals entering the facility (e.g., quarantine periods for new animals, 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit report Record of meeting / sensitization program PPE provided Training held Incidents recorded List of dates, number of trainees, and topics available 	Throughout project implementation

	<p>washing and disinfecting crates, disinfection, and coverage of shoes, providing protective clothing to personnel, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a veterinary health plans/strategies (disease prevention, treatments, vaccinations protocols, etc.) ▪ With the consent of involved/affected communities, adopt and promote skills, knowledge and practices and support intergenerational knowledge transmission 			
<p>Increase land right/tenure issues and involuntary restrictions on land use and access to natural resources</p> <p>ESS7. Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Follow the guiding principles and good practices of responsible tenure governance (VGGT) ▪ Conduct sensitization and training of communities on conservation of wildlife and protected areas ▪ The project activities will not take place in areas/land which may have land tenure issues and if land titles are not clear; nor in ancestral lands/domains, or areas considered as culturally important areas (sacred grounds, burial sites, cultural and heritage sites) ▪ Ensure that land planning and/or zoning activities (e.g drafting of landscape and watershed 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Record of community meetings held, dates and places ▪ No. of follow ups made and resolved ▪ Record of stakeholder engagements and minutes 	Prior to start of interventions

	<p>management strategy) are consistent with traditional and customary rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopt a collaborative forest/landscape management, where communities are involved not only in the planning processes, but also participate in the monitoring and evaluation processes of different project activities. ▪ Baseline studies and surveys shall take into consideration the participation of marginalized groups (Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, PLWD), their rights, needs, barriers, opportunities. ▪ Establish functional GRM at project-level that is accessible and culturally appropriate 			
<p>Increase consumption of water and energy in agro-processing facilities</p> <p>ESS2. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Select energy-efficient machinery and equipment (e.g., tractors, ventilation systems, drying and storage systems, cooling devices) and consider on-board fuel-use monitors (reduce heat loss from thermal processes, improve cooling efficiency) ▪ Promote use of renewable energy ▪ Adopt best-practice methods for facility cleaning and operation 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of construction materials left over at the end ▪ % of waste at construction site is disposed of appropriately ▪ # of waste bins available at construction sites ▪ # or % of vendors who have undergone and completed training 	Throughout project implementation

	<p>(solar water heaters, pumps, cooling systems), biogas and biomass.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Integrated Water Management along with intermittent water quality monitoring 			
<p>Inadequate inclusion of IP communities, women, PLWD and marginalized groups</p> <p>ESS6. Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence</p> <p>ESS8. Indigenous Peoples</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall, the project supports equal opportunity for participation in FFS with respect to gender and specific vulnerable groups. Establishment of cultural appropriate GRM that is accessible and sensitive towards groups (e.g., language, literacy levels, level of access to technology) and that have been discusses/socialized with them. Training and meetings with PLWDs will be organized in close-by locations in the communities, in sensitive teaching and learning environments. To cater to the special needs of the PLWDs with visual, hearing, physical and speech impairments train them in braille, sign and audio languages). 	FAO/Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of complaints filed have been addressed # of site-specific incident logs # of GRM cases filed # of stakeholder engagements conducted 	Monthly

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

334. **Environmental Mitigation Measures Summary:** To counteract the indirect increase in pesticide use, proactive training on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) will be conducted. In situations where pesticide application is necessary, guidance on safe handling practices will be provided, with an emphasis on using bio-pesticides. The project strictly prohibits the procurement of pesticides and the use of highly hazardous pesticides (HHP) within project locales. Environmental and Social Management Plans will tackle issues related to waste disposal and management, adhering to industry-specific best practices (e.g., Environmental, Health & Safety Guidelines) and promoting sustainable certification schemes (e.g., FairTrade, Global Gap).
335. **Social Mitigation Measures Summary:** Challenges such as occupational health and safety (OHS), decent rural employment, child labor, gender-based violence/sexual exploitation and abuse (GBV/SEAH), and gender and land tenure issues will be addressed through various measures including: application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT); sensitization and training on safe and decent rural employment practices, focusing on age-appropriate tasks; comprehensive sensitization and training programs on GBV and SEAH; secure pesticide use practices; and reliable age verification in recruitment. A Gender Action Plan is in place to overcome women's barriers and challenges. Social inclusion for minority groups will be fostered through continuous consultations and FPIC, alongside participatory monitoring and evaluation to encourage stakeholder engagement and social accountability. Minority representatives will be included in decision-making bodies. A grievance redress mechanism (GRM) will be established, considering feedback from community consultations and sensitive to the needs of vulnerable groups. A bespoke training program will cover a range of topics including E&S safeguards, GRM, decent work, pesticide management, first-aid, gender mainstreaming, and more. The ESMP will outline measures to prevent exploitative labor practices and protect children's rights, with contractors required to comply with national legislation and undergo regular inspections.
336. **Employment Principles Summary:** All employment relationships will be governed by principles of equality and fair treatment, prohibiting discrimination in any employment aspect. The ESMP will provide guidance on employment arrangements, ensuring compliance with national law and adherence to labor standards as outlined in the FAO Framework for ESMF.
337. **Contractual Obligations Summary:** Contracts with project staff, partners, and service providers will include clauses that: prohibit sexual harassment, exploitation, and abuse; mandate immediate reporting of any incidents of misconduct; allow for contract termination in cases of proven misconduct; forbid child labor; mandate the establishment of a grievance mechanism; recommend the inclusion of persons with disabilities and, where possible, favor women's employment; ensure occupational health and safety training and provision of appropriate personal protective equipment. Procurements will align with FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards and the project's ESMF and ESMPs.

10. Principles and procedures to mitigate impacts from implementation

10.1. Introduction:

338. One of the main purposes of this ESMF, and associated Gender Action Plan, is to help the Project Implementation Units in identifying and developing activities for greater environmental and social co-benefits. In order to ensure that the environmental and social issues are addressed properly in accordance and in compliance with the FAO and GCF Policies, all project sub-activities will undergo a screening, assessment, review, and clearance process before execution of the project activities.

10.2. Screening of sub-activities and sites:

339. Screening is a key environmental and social management process aimed at identifying potential environmental and social impacts as well as determining appropriate studies and follow up that might be required for sub-activities. FAO's environmental and social screening determines if a sub-activity

will require an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). As landscape management plans are the entry point for project implementation, a project ESMP will be developed as a master document based on an assessment of environmental and social baseline and impacts during the first year of implementation and implementation safeguards documents which will be in aligned with the project ESMP which will be prepared in the first year of project implementation for each of the six project regions. The FAO screening template, included in Appendix 5, will be used to guide the screening

340. The screening of landscape management plans (LMPs) will involve checking that the activities are permissible as per the Somalia legal and regulatory requirements that apply to the project, along with a specific assessment of the level of risk associated with SEAH. For each LMP, the proposal must include a set of mitigation measures with monitoring and institutional arrangements to be taken during the implementation phase to correctly manage any potential adverse environmental and social impacts that may have been identified.

341. For this project, the project ESMPs will be elaborated once the project identifies the target areas and based on the assessment to be conducted under Activity 1.1.2 (Develop climate-informed inclusive landscape management plans). These processes will be conducted in close collaboration with the regional/district offices of the Federal Member State ministries of environment and agriculture.

10.3. Assessment of environmental and social baseline and impacts

342. The project will conduct an environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) that covers all target regions/ districts. FAO will hire an international safeguards specialist and national safeguards specialist to support the assessment. The assessment will provide the following information to inform the selection of specific sites and sub-activities to be included in landscape management plans (LMPs) as well as the development of the project ESMPs;

- Project description: geographic location, summary of project activities, implementation arrangements;
- Analysis of policy and legal framework: including a comprehensive chapter on institutional framework dealing with the gap analysis and proposed institutional capacity;
- Environmental and social baseline conditions: physical and biological environment, sociocultural environment;
- Environmental and social impact analysis including potential cumulative impacts

10.4 Environmental and social risk management (monitoring and reporting)

343. Project activities classified as medium risk based on the environmental and social risks identified during the screening process and the assessment will then be further mitigated by the ESMPs to be developed at regional level, that will include information on the mitigation actions, the indicators and timeframe where the completion of such mitigation actions are expected.

344. In summary, the project ESMP should include:

- Risk classification and description of potential environmental and social risks and impacts;
- Mitigation Measures: Based on the environmental and social impacts identified from the checklist, the ESMP should describe with technical details of each mitigation measure. It should also cover measures to mitigate and monitor SEAH.
- Monitoring: Environmental and social monitoring during the implementation of the LSMP, in order to measure the success of the mitigation measures. Specifically, the monitoring section of the ESMP provides:
 - A specific description and technical details of monitoring measures that include the parameters to be measured, the methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements, detection limits (where appropriate), and definition of thresholds that will signal the need for corrective actions.
 - Monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure early detection of conditions that necessitate mitigation measures and to furnish information on the progress and results

of mitigation, e.g. by annual audits and surveys to monitor overall effectiveness of this ESMF.

- Description of the stakeholder engagement process that was carried out in the inception phase and the stakeholder engagement plan to be carried out during implementation
- Breakdown of information by site about the grievance mechanism and disclosure
- Institutional Arrangements: The ESMP should also provide a specific description of institutional arrangements, i.e. who is responsible for carrying out the mitigating and monitoring measures (for operation, supervision, enforcement, monitoring of implementation, remedial action, financing, reporting and staff training).

345. Additionally, the ESMPs should include an estimate of the costs of the measures and activities recommended so that the necessary funds are included. The mitigation and monitoring measures recommended in the ESMPs should be developed in consultation with all affected groups to incorporate their concerns and views in the design of the ESMP.

346. Once drafted, the project ESMPs will be disclosed for at least 30 days prior to official endorsement both online and in locally accessible places convenient to affected persons at the regional and districts level with focus on LMPs and infrastructure work.

347. The project ESMPs at each regional level will be updated once the Landscape Management Plans (LMPs) identify more detailed list of activities and location.

348. The International ESS Specialist, National ESS Specialist and International Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist will closely involve Environmental Coordinators, who serve as focal points from the ministries, and will be responsible for monitoring the progress, as relevant, in the monitoring plan, as well as to identify any potential risks that may emerge through the implementation phase. This information will be compiled in progress reports and templates will include a section on E&S risk management, where the above information will be reported upon.

349. Information from progress reports will be received by the International ESS Specialist, National ESS Specialist in the CPIU who will compile the information received in the progress reports, as well as that related to grievances, to feed in a semi-annual report on Environmental and Social Safeguards Performance to be endorsed by the ESM unit in FAO.

11. Implementation arrangements

350. The environmental and social safeguards implementation aligns with the overarching project management structure, with FAO acting as the Accredited Entity (AE). In this role, FAO oversees project appraisal, administrative, financial, and technical management, ensuring funds are utilized effectively to meet project goals, maintaining the quality of monitoring and reporting to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and handling project closure and evaluation. This responsibility is carried out following the guidelines established in the Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) between FAO and GCF. FAO's role as AE involves coordination among its offices and divisions in Rome, Italy (Headquarters), the Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the FAO Country Office for Somalia, with additional support from technical divisions at FAO HQ as needed.

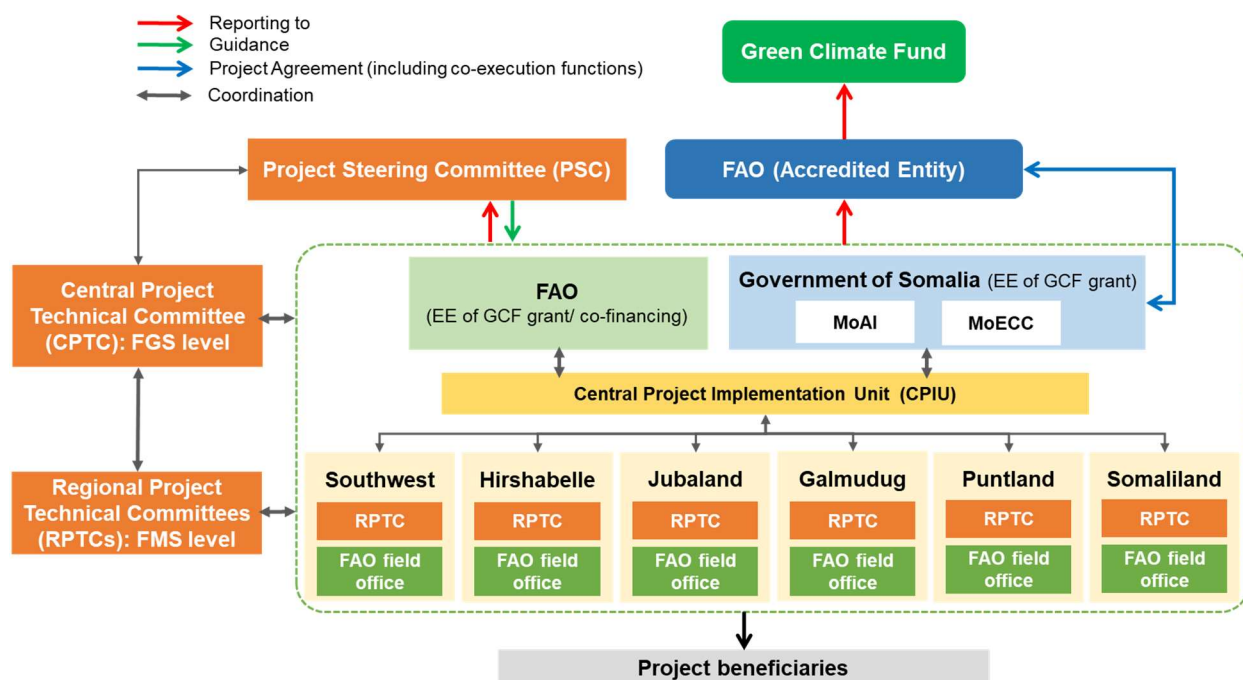
351. To fulfil AE responsibilities, FAO will establish a Project Task Force (PTF) comprising staff from its Somalia country office, the Regional Office for Africa, and FAO Headquarters. This team will provide essential supervision, oversight, and support throughout the project, including monitoring project implementation, reviewing progress and financial reports, and conducting audits. The PTF will operate independently from FAO's functions as an Executing Entity, ensuring compliance with GCF policies and enabling effective AE function performance.

352. A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be set up to offer strategic project guidance. Its responsibilities include providing direction, addressing issues, monitoring risks and mitigation measures, reviewing progress, endorsing annual work plans, appraising annual reports, recommending future actions, and advising on exceptional circumstances exceeding project coordinator tolerances.

353. Executing Entities (EE): FAO Somalia will assume responsibility for Executing Entity functions in partnership with the Republic of Somalia's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) among other specialized entities. This collaborative effort ensures the project's activities across each outcome are effectively delivered, serving the needs of individual, professional, or institutional beneficiaries. Coordination at the local level will engage county offices for seamless execution of project activities, as depicted in Figure 11.

354. A Central Project Implementation Unit (CPIU) will be formed, involving Somalia NDA (MoECC), governmental stakeholders, FAO Somalia Office, and MoECC. Led by a dedicated Project Coordinator, the CPIU will facilitate project implementation and stakeholder coordination. The CPIU will consist of technical and administrative personnel, including a Procurement Officer, Finance Officer, M&E Specialist, and will incorporate a Lead Safeguards Specialist, Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist, with plans to recruit additional E&S specialists to support project initiatives.

Figure 14 Project implementation arrangement



Source: Authors' own elaboration.

11.1. Project implementation arrangements

355. A national Safeguards Specialist and an international Safeguard Specialist will be appointed full-time and part-time respectively to ensure the ESMF is effectively implemented and regularly reported on throughout all project activities, in line with GCF and FAO's environmental and social safeguards. This specialist will oversee on-the-ground staff in project areas conducting screenings for sub-activities before implementation, addressing any identified medium-risk activities with Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) crafted during the project's execution. This approach tailors mitigation measures to specific project areas and sub-activity types, ensuring relevance and efficiency. Additionally, the Lead Safeguards Specialist will oversee the monitoring, evaluation, and reporting for the project's environmental and social safeguards components and will be actively involved in the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).

356. To strengthen project personnel's capacity to manage environmental and social risks effectively throughout the project, the Specialist will: (i) incorporate safeguards-related requirements into the job descriptions for relevant project-recruited staff; and (ii) enhance their capacity post-recruitment. This

includes initial E&S safeguards training for all project staff and annual refresher courses for all project staff and implementing partners.

357. Capacity-building training on FAO's environmental and social (E&S) safeguards will be provided to all Executing Entities and Implementing Partners, covering key areas such as Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (SEAH), Gender-Based Complaints (GBC), and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). Each will appoint a focal point for environmental and social issues, ensuring contractors and subcontractors are informed of and comply with ESMF/ESMPs and associated plans.
358. Institutional arrangements for environmental and social safeguards involve a National Safeguards Specialist within the CPIU ensuring adherence to the ESMF and ESMP. This specialist will coordinate with other safeguard experts, Executing Entities, government staff, and stakeholders to maintain compliance with national and international E&S standards and mitigation measures. Safeguard updates and reports will be regularly presented at Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings.
359. The Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) will serve as fundamental instruments for ensuring adherence to recommended safeguard measures within the project. These plans outline specific indicators to be integrated into the project's operational monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework, facilitating regular oversight of safeguard implementation. FAO will conduct oversight of the ESMP implementation through its annual supervision missions, including mid-term reviews and at project completion.
360. Each ESMP will incorporate a standardized monitoring program tailored to the main environmental and social (E&S) risks identified in this ESMF. This program will undergo reviews and updates quarterly, led by the E&S specialist and the Monitoring Officer with support from other CPIU specialists, such as the gender and inclusion specialist. On-site CPIU officers are tasked with the following:
- Regularly conducting site inspections.
 - Creating a site-specific checklist to record any deviations from the ESMP or relevant ESMF standards.
 - Reporting inspection results and/or water quality findings, promptly addressing any control failures and instituting measures to prevent recurrence.
 - Documenting and reporting monitoring results and incidents as specified in the ESMP.
 - Immediately notifying the CPIU of any potential significant environmental harm or breaches of noise level thresholds.
361. Supervision and implementation support for the project will be a collaborative effort between the MoECC, MoAI and FAO. Structured annual supervision missions, supplemented by follow-up/support missions six months later, will be conducted throughout the project's duration. These missions aim not only to monitor implementation and report on the project's performance and outcomes but also to evaluate achievements, extract lessons learned, and explore strategies for enhancing implementation effectiveness and project impact.

12. Budget for Environmental and Social Management Framework

362. This section outlines the budget necessary for managing environmental and social risks associated with the project, ensuring compliance with the Environmental and Social Management Framework/Guideline (ESMF/FESM). The budget is structured to finance the outlined work plan, distinguishing expenses directly tied to safeguarding (e.g., a project officer with dual responsibilities including safeguards, and training for partners on handling grievances, inclusive of those related to sexual exploitation and abuse) from those specifically allocated to environmental and social (E&S) risk management. It is crucial that these budgetary requirements are accurately reflected in the project's overall master budget.
363. As the project's specifics and scope are yet to be finalized, the exact budget for ESMP implementation remains provisional. However, the ESMF underscores the necessity of incorporating environmental and social considerations through various recommended actions, including training,

capacity enhancement, screening, review, and monitoring mechanisms. The table below offers estimated costs for these components, with actual expenses to be detailed during the implementation phase upon identifying training needs and the extent of required technical assistance.

364. Given the significant gap in establishing environmental and social safeguarding tools and manuals in Somalia, substantial resources must be dedicated to capacity building. The table below presents an anticipated budget for effectively managing environmental and social safeguards issues, outlining specific activities and the requisite ESMP budget:

Table 14 Budget summary of ESMF

No	Item	Approximate Person Months	Total Cost (USD)
1	International Env and Social Safeguard Specialist	30 months	350,520
2	International Gender, Social Inclusion and IP Specialist	11 months	128,524
3	National Safeguard Specialist	84 months	333,312
4	National Gender Specialist	84 months	333,312
5	Conflict and Risk Management Specialist	56 months	194,208
6	Indigenous Peoples and Land Tenure expert	56 months	194,208
7	Training on ESS	N/A	75,000
8	Communication materials, GRM related cost	N/A	70,000
9	Lump-Sum for ad-hoc Safeguard Activities	N/A	140,000
10	FPIC implementation (sub-activity 1.1.2.1)	N/A	129,034
Total			1,948,118

These estimates provide a foundation for financial planning, with detailed allocations to be determined in line with project developments and specific environmental and social safeguarding needs.

13. Appendix

Appendix 1: Non-eligibility list

The following activities are prohibited under the Project (ineligible or the “Non-eligibility list”) in order to avoid adverse irreversible impacts on the environment and people, the following activities are explicitly excluded from funding:

- Relocation and/or demolition of any permanent houses or business.
- Use of the project as an incentive and/or a tool to support and/or implement involuntary resettlement of local people and village consolidation.
- Land acquisition.
- New settlements or expansion of existing settlements.
- Activities that would likely create adverse impacts on minority groups and/or ethnic peoples within villages and/or in neighboring villages, or activities unacceptable to minority groups.
- Imposing ideas and changing priorities identified by the community and endorsed at meetings without community consultation, prior review and clearance from the CPIU.
- Damage or loss to cultural property, including sites having archeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, religious, cultural and unique natural values.
- Resources access restriction (e.g. restricted access to farming land) that could not be mitigated and will result in adverse impacts on the livelihoods of minority groups, and disadvantaged peoples.
- Activities of any kind within natural habitats and existing or proposed protected areas.
- Purchase of banned pesticides, insecticides, herbicides and other unbanned pesticides, unbanned insecticides and unbanned herbicides and dangerous chemicals exceeding the amount required to treat efficiently the infected area. If a pest invasion occurs, the use of small amounts of eligible and registered pesticides in Somalia will be allowed if supplemented by additional training of farmers to ensure the safe use of pesticides in accordance with FAO/IFC policies and procedures (FAO clearance is needed). No pesticides, insecticides, and/or herbicides will be allowed in the buffer zone of protected areas, protected forests, and/or natural habitats. Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHP) will not be used by the project.
- Purchase of destructive farming gear and other investments detrimental to the environment.
- Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources.
- Introduction of invasive species, non-native species will only be introduced if these are essential as climate resilient and know for non-invasive properties.
- Significant conversion or degradation of natural habitat or where the conservation and/or environmental gains do not clearly outweigh any potential losses.
- Production or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under (i) the Government of Somalia; (ii) international conventions and agreements; or (iii) subject to international bans.

- Labor and working conditions involving harmful, exploitative, involuntary or compulsory forms of labor, forced labor, child labor or significant occupational health and safety issues.
- Trade in any products with businesses engaged in exploitative environmental or social behavior.
- Sub-project activities that require a full EIA will not be funded, including any activities that will use or induce the use of hazardous materials or any banned chemicals, and/or activities involving construction with dimensions falling outside of FAO liability.

Preference list

- Promote climate resilient agriculture practices;
- Promote sustainable and climate-smart management of water resources;
- Promote utilization of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), as well as the use of natural/organic pesticides from herbs (biopesticides), rather than chemical pesticides, in instances where pesticides must be used;
- Promote skills development to increase climate resiliency of farmers; and
- Promote improvement of the enabling environment (financial opportunities, governing institutions, agricultural extension, policies and/or acts) to facilitate increased and sustained uptake of CRA practices and climate-informed water management.
- Activities which benefit Indigenous Peoples and/or any such peoples at highest-risk of negative climate change impacts

Appendix 2: A list from Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC)

Somalia has not put in place the official list of banned or restricted pesticides. However, Somalia ratified POPs and PIC since 2010 and these pesticides will be banned or highly restricted in this project.

Chemical Name	Relevant CAS number(s)	
Ccc2,4,5-T and its salts and esters	93-76-5 (*)	Pesticide
Alachlor	15972-60-8	Pesticide
Aldicarb	116-06-3	Pesticide
Aldrin	309-00-2	Pesticide
Azinphos-methyl	86-50-0	Pesticide
Binapacryl	485-31-4	Pesticide
Captafol	2425-06-1	Pesticide
Carbofuran	1563-66-2	Pesticide
Chlordane	57-74-9	Pesticide
Chlordimeform	6164-98-3	Pesticide
Chlorobenzilate	510-15-6	Pesticide
DDT	50-29-3	Pesticide
Dieldrin	60-57-1	Pesticide
Dinitro-ortho-cresol (DNOC) and its salts (such as ammonium salt, potassium salt and sodium salt)	534-52-1	Pesticide
Dinoseb and its salts and esters	88-85-7 (*)	Pesticide
EDB (1,2-dibromoethane)	106-93-4	Pesticide
Endosulfan	115-29-7	Pesticide
Ethylene dichloride	107-06-2	Pesticide
Ethylene oxide	75-21-8	Pesticide
Fluoroacetamide	640-19-7	Pesticide
HCH (mixed isomers)	608-73-1	Pesticide
Heptachlor	76-44-8	Pesticide
Hexachlorobenzene	118-74-1	Pesticide
Lindane (gamma-HCH)	58-89-9	Pesticide
Mercury compounds, including inorganic mercury compounds, alkyl mercury compounds and alkyloxyalkyl and aryl mercury compounds	99-99-9	Pesticide
Methamidophos	10265-92-6	Pesticide
Monocrotophos	6923-22-4	Pesticide
Parathion	56-38-2	Pesticide
Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters	87-86-5 (*)	Pesticide
Phorate	298-02-2	Pesticide
Terbufos	13071-79-9	Pesticide
Toxaphene (Camphechlor)	8001-35-2	Pesticide
Tributyl tin compounds	1461-22-9, 1983-10-4, 2155-70-6, 24124-25-2, 4342-36-3, 56-35-9, 85409-17-2	Pesticide
Trichlorfon	52-68-6	Pesticide
Dustable powder formulations containing a combination of benomyl at or above 7%, carbofuran at or above 10% and thiram at or above 15%	137-26-8, 1563-66-2, 17804-35-2	Pesticide Formulation
Methyl-parathion (Emulsifiable concentrates (EC) at or above 19.5% active ingredient and dusts at or above 1.5% active ingredient)	298-00-0	Pesticide Formulation
Phosphamidon (Soluble liquid formulations of the substance that exceed 1000 g active ingredient/l)	13171-21-6	Pesticide Formulation

Appendix 3: FAO guidance for Pest and Pesticide Management

FAO emphasizes Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a key strategy for sustainable agriculture. IPM advocates for a thoughtful combination of pest control methods to suppress pest populations while minimizing the reliance on chemical pesticides and safeguarding human, animal health, and the environment. It promotes healthy crop growth with minimal agro-ecosystem disruption and enhances natural pest control mechanisms. While the project encourages the use of biopesticides, agroecology, and agroforestry, it recognizes the potential indirect rise in chemical pesticide use in regions with high pesticide dependency. To address this, guidelines focus on mitigating the use of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), particularly those banned in Europe, through project activities that may inadvertently increase chemical pesticide usage.

This section offers guidance on managing pests and pesticides within field projects, integrating a simplified pest management strategy. The project's pest management approach will align with the FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (AGPM) and local Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI) offices. It adheres to international norms including:

- **International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management:** A voluntary framework endorsed by FAO members, pesticide industry associations, and civil society groups.

Pesticides are toxic substances requiring careful handling to mitigate risks to human health and the environment. Misuse can reduce agricultural productivity and result in unacceptable pesticide residues, affecting crop marketability.

Pesticide Selection: FAO's criteria for pesticide use are aligned with the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. Key selection criteria include:

- **Registration and Compliance:** Pesticides must be registered or permitted by the national authority, adhering to all registration requirements.
- **Risk Management:** Users must manage the product within acceptable risk levels. Highly hazardous pesticides are avoided unless no safer alternatives exist and precautionary measures are adhered to.
- **Preferential Selection:** Priority is given to less hazardous, selective, and less persistent products and safer application methods.
- **International Treaty Compliance:** Selected pesticides must not be banned or restricted under international agreements.
- **Environmental Consideration:** Minimize or avoid pesticide use that negatively impacts non-target species, ecosystem services, soil health, or leads to pest resistance.

Pesticide Management: FAO applies the following requirements to all pesticides within the framework of FAO programmes and projects:

- A thorough risk assessment should be conducted that leads to adequate measures to reduce health and environmental risks to acceptable levels.
- Quantities to be provided should be based on an accurate assessment of actual needs.
- Appropriate application equipment and personal protective equipment are required.

- Users of pesticides must be trained.
- Proper storage of pesticides in accordance with FAO guidelines should be ensured.
- Empty pesticide containers should be triple rinsed, punctured, and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.

Seed Treatment: The use of insecticidal seed coatings as a prophylactic method for pest management is in conflict with core IPM principles and will not be endorsed by FAO. Conditions for seed treatment include:

- The treatment of seeds must be done in an appropriately equipped facility.
- Users of seed treatment equipment should be provided with suitable application equipment.
- Treated seeds must be dyed to discourage consumption.
- All packages containing treated seeds must be clearly marked as toxic.

Responsibilities: Whenever pesticides are provided by FAO, it should be established in advance which institution will be responsible for the proper storage, transport, distribution, and use of the products concerned. Procurement of pesticides by FAO is subject to an internal clearance procedure. Responsibilities include:

- Review and clearance of pesticide purchase requests.
- Project documents that envisage procurement of pesticides.
- Terminal reports for projects that involved pesticide supply. Requests for clearance should be submitted to the respective FAO Sub-/Regional Coordinator and Plant Protection Officer.

Sample - Simplified Pest Management Plan (PMP)

This simplified PMP is crafted to equip national, provincial, and local government bodies, project implementation teams, consultants, county officials, and partnered private and public sector agencies with the necessary knowledge to effectively address safeguard issues according to ESS2. This process will be integrated into the project cycle, including sub-activity selection, approval, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. While pesticide procurement is excluded from the project, the ESMF identifies issues related to the current use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers and provides mitigation measures for prohibited items and guidelines for safe usage and disposal. The PMP applies to activities primarily related to:

1. SECTION I. POLICY AND REGULATIONS:

FAO's safeguard policy on pest management (ESS2):

ESS2 mandates the creation and implementation of a Pest Management Plan for projects involving pesticides, ensuring safe handling, transportation, usage, and disposal to protect human health and the environment. Although the project will not support the procurement of chemical pesticides, controlled use of registered pesticides, supplemented by farmer training for safe application, is permitted. This approach aligns with the project's objective to reduce chemical pesticide and fertilizer use by promoting sustainable farming practices. A simplified Pest Management Plan, accompanied by an Exclusion List (**Annex 1**), has been developed. While the project does not support the procurement and use of chemical pesticides and

fertilizers on the non-eligibility list, it acknowledges the potential necessity for chemical inputs due to shifts in agricultural production or disease control. This PMP outlines clear regulations and procedures for managing pesticides and toxic chemicals and provides training on their health impacts and safe use, alongside promoting non-chemical alternatives like organic farming. The PMP aligns with the Government of Somalia's regulations and international best practices, including FAO's guidelines on Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Relevant definitions under ESS2 include:

- **Pesticides:** Substances intended for repelling, destroying, or controlling pests, or regulating plant growth.
- **Pest:** Organisms harmful to plants, materials, environments, or human and animal health.

Recognizing pesticides' role in crop and food protection, ESS2 also notes the risks associated with their misuse and advocates for life-cycle management in accordance with the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management.

The CPIU will collaborate closely with the MoAI and MoECC to execute the Pest Management Plan, addressing:

- **MoAI:** Oversees agricultural regulations and manages pest and disease control.
- **MoECC:** Supervises environmental matters and implements environmental policies.
- **Others:** Ministry of Health and MoECC provide laboratory services in the fields of public and environmental health and through the Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services (DOSHS) ensures safety, health and welfare of workers predisposed to pesticides

These entities regulate pesticide usage and aim to mitigate environmental harm.

Government regulation related to pest management:

1. **Somalia Agricultural Chemicals Control Act (2019):** the Act provides for the control and management, manufacture, distribution and use of hazardous chemicals and pesticides as well as the fertilizers, and to make provisions for the matters connected therewith. The Act is divided into five chapters and 26 Articles.
2. **Somalia National Pesticides Policy (2019):** the policy aims at governing the trade and use of pesticides in Somalia. This focuses on creating an enabling regulatory environment to promote the safe use of pesticides.
3. **Somalia Plant Protection and Quarantine Act (2019):** In order to ensure phytosanitation, the aim of this Act is to quarantine imported and export plants, and domestic plants, and to control plants injurious to plants, and to prevent them from spreading and thereby ensure the safety and promotion of agricultural production.

2. SECTION II. KEY ISSUES AND MITIGATION MEASURES:

This section supports the project community in implementing ESS2, acknowledging potential minor and localized negative impacts from pesticides and chemical fertilizers. Although IPM will be promoted to avoid misuse, understanding the nature of these activities is crucial for encouraging farmers to reduce chemical input usage. Possible activities associated with pesticide and fertilizer use under the project include:

- Indirect increased use of pesticides, chemicals, and fertilizers due to enhanced agricultural productivity.

Actions for Mitigation:

- Prohibition: The project will not promote pesticide procurement, included in the non-eligibility list **(Appendix 1)**.
- Training for Project and Government Staff: Continual knowledge sharing on alternative sustainable practices and safe pesticide usage.
- Farmer Training: Education on pest management, adherence to government regulations, and the promotion of non-chemical alternatives.
- No Procurement of Pesticides: Compliance with Somali regulations and FAO guidelines is mandatory for any pesticide usage in project areas.
- Continuous Monitoring: Regular oversight by designated project team members at the local level to adjust programs and training as needed.

Appendix 4: ESMF implementation plan

Activity	Indicator	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5				Year 6				Year 7				Responsibility
		Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	
Capacity Building																														
Capacity building of project staff on E&S Safeguards	Training of Project Implementation on staff on E&S Safeguards during the projects start up workshop																													Project Safeguards Specialists
Refresher training for project staff/implementing partners on E&S Safeguards	Training of Project Implementation staff on E&S Safeguards at the annual implementation workshops																													Project Safeguards Specialists
E&S Screening and Assessment																														
Identification of project target areas	List of target areas																													Project Safeguards Specialists

Stakeholder Engagement																				
Consultation Process Planning	Consultation Reports																		FAO / Implementing Partners	
Consultation with FGS and FMS																				FAO / Implementing Partners
Village level consultations																				FAO / Implementing Partners
Consultations with minority groups																				FAO / Implementing Partners
Consultations with women																				FAO / Implementing Partners
Tenure																				
Survey to determine the type of access to land for farmers	Baseline survey results																		Enumerators	

Land tenure legal framework review to identify gaps to promote sustainable agricultural practices and adaptation to climate change	Review Report																												Indigenous Peoples and Land Tenure expert
Action plan to support landless farmers with adoption of climate resilient practices based on VGGT	Action Plan																												Indigenous Peoples and Land Tenure expert
Implementation of action plan to support landless farmers with adoption of CRA practices	Safeguard progress reports (as listed for M&E)																												Project Safeguards Specialists
Biodiversity Management																													

Appendix 5: FAO Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

Full ES Risk Screening checklist (ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, ESS5, ESS6, ESS7, ESS8, & ESS9):

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
<p>ESS 1 - Biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources</p> <p>Could the project positively or negatively affect biodiversity or habitats (water or land), through activities or policy?</p>	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	<p>* Convention on Biological Diversity (2022) Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>* Convention on Biological Diversity (2015) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Somalia https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/so/so-nbsap-01-en.pdf</p> <p>* UNU-IAS and IGES (2023) Using Landscape Approaches in National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Planning</p>	<p>* The landscape approach (as adopted in the project) is designed to determine the needs of key wildlife species, assess human activities across the same landscape, and use the intersection of these to focus efforts on those areas and actions which emerge as key conservation conflicts or opportunities. The landscape approach assumes that by meeting the needs of a suite of spatially and ecologically complementary landscape species, biodiversity in general will be conserved.</p> <p>* No land conversion will take place (expansion of agriculture frontier, clearing of native forest or similar activities, increases in areas under cultivation within protected areas). *The project will work mainly with local/native breeds and species sourced from local or national markets where available. All genetic material for plants and</p>

						<p>animal (seedling/planting material, species, breeds) should be free from pests and diseases. Laboratory controls will take place when and as required. Seeds are procured preferably in the national market from SARIS certified agro-dealers and/or vetted SARIS seeds companies.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Use of digital solutions to monitor impact of activities, illegal actions or specific situations (SWALIM, satellite imageries, geotagged photos, etc).</p>
ESS 1.1 Could the project lead to conversion, or land use change, or fragmentation, or degradation of natural habitats, modified habitats or critical natural habitats (water and/or land)?	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	* Natural habitats are land and water areas where the biological communities are formed in large part by native plant and animal species, and where human activity has not essentially modified the area's primary ecological functions and species composition.	Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give

						<p>* Modified habitats are areas that may contain a large proportion of plant and/or animal species of non-native origin, and/or where human activity has substantially modified an area's primary ecological functions and species composition. Modified habitats may include areas managed for agriculture, forest plantations, reclaimed coastal zones, and reclaimed wetlands.</p> <p>* Critical habitats are areas with high biodiversity value that are of significant importance to endemic, restricted-range, threatened, endangered, migratory, or congregatory species. Or they may include highly threatened and/or unique ecosystems associated with ecological functions or characteristics that are required to sustain the previously described biodiversity.</p>	<p>feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Use of digital solutions to monitor impact of activities, illegal actions or specific situations (SWALIM, satellite imageries, geotagged photos, etc).</p>
ESS 1.2 Could the project include activities in legally protected areas (either marine or terrestrial)? Or include activities in areas that may become legally protected?	No	Unlikely	N/A	Low	<p>The project will not carry out activities in protected areas (PA), however to ensure co-benefits for protected areas in the nearby project sites will be managed as follows:</p> <p>* For programmes and projects operating in protected areas, FAO will:</p> <p>** show that the proposed activities in these areas are legally permitted;</p> <p>** operate in a manner that is in line with management plans that have been recognized by the government;</p> <p>** engage in consultations with the sponsors and managers of the protected area, and involve them and other stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities as appropriate.</p>	<p>Stakeholder engagement, and coordination and collaboration with government authorities, local NGOs, and community-based organizations.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo</p>	

						<p>system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Use of digital solutions to monitor impact of activities, illegal actions or specific situations (SWALIM, satellite imageries, geotagged photos, etc).</p>
<p>ESS 1.3 Could the project include any activity on the ground related to agroforestry, forest plantation, harvesting, or management of forest resources (native or planted) for timber and non-timber forest products uses (e.g. seeds collection, spices, honey, mushrooms, bush meat)?</p>	Yes	Highly Likely	Moderate	Moderate	<p>* Adhere to existing national forest policies, forest programmes or equivalent strategies;</p> <p>* and the Voluntary Guidelines on Planted Forests.</p>	<p>The activities will be implemented in strict compliance with the recommendations and in congruence with the Somalia NBSAP, (2015) and NDC targets related to forests and ecosystem</p>
<p>ESS 1.4 Could the project implement fisheries and/or aquaculture activities that may result in degradation of habitats or other negative consequences for biodiversity?</p>	No			Low	<p>Project is not implementing Fisheries/aquaculture activities</p>	
<p>ESS 1.5 Could the project provide or lead to the use of non-native/non-local species, varieties, breeds, strains or farmed types of domesticated or wild plants or animals (terrestrial or aquatic)?</p>	No	Likely	Low	Low	<p>* Animals: Follow the World Organisation for Animal Health terrestrial or aquatic code to ensure the introduced species/breed does not carry different diseases than local ones;</p> <p>* Plants: Follow appropriate phytosanitary protocols in accordance with International Plant Protection Convention;</p> <p>* Importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials for research and development: Ensure compliance with Access and Benefit Sharing norms as stipulated in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Nagoya Protocol of the Convention on Biological Diversity as may be applicable.</p>	<p>The project will though provide drought resistance species, but mostly of local origin. On the other hand forestry will be done through local species or well adopted species of non-invasive nature.</p> <p>Laboratory controls will take place when and as required. Seeds are procured preferably in the national market from SARIS certified agro-dealers and/or vetted</p>

						SARIS seeds companies, or from assessed tree nurseries.
ESS 1.6 Could the project lead to the introduction of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) or Living Modified Organisms (LMOs)?	No			Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Adhere to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in the handling, transport, and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology; * The FAO Biosafety Resource Book is an important training tool for guiding activities; * Adhere to biosafety requirements in the handling of Genetically Modified Organisms or Living Modified Organisms according to national legislation; * Take measures to prevent gene flow from the introduced varieties to existing ones and/or wild relatives. 	
ESS 1.7 Could the project potentially affect animal welfare e.g. terrestrial or aquatic animals?	No			Low	At a minimum, follow the World Organisation for Animal Health Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes .	
ESS 1.8 Could the project use genetic resources for research or (commercial) development - including from Indigenous Peoples or local communities, and/or associated traditional knowledge - for which prior informed consent/mutually agreed terms are required?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	If yes, specific project document requirements may apply related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture falling under the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.	
ESS 1.9 Could the project potentially lead to procurement of processed natural resource materials through primary/retail suppliers? e.g. buying wood/ timber or processed products for the project such as school tables and chairs.	No	Unlikely	Low	Low		

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
<p>ESS 2 - Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management</p> <p>Could the project positively or negatively affect soil and water resources, or water-related ecosystems, through activities or policy (e.g. through pollutants, pesticides, fertilizers, hazardous materials or waste)?</p>	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate		<p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Use of digital solutions to monitor impact of activities, illegal actions or specific situations (SWALIM, satellite imageries, geotagged photos, etc).</p>
<p>ESS 2.1 Could the project lead to significant consumption/extraction of raw materials, surface or ground water and/or energy (e.g.: water extraction is above sustainable levels or recharge capacities)?</p>	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	<p>FAO (2023), Water resources management for the four betters: better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life, to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p>PC 138/6 - Follow-up report on the Evaluation of FAO's contribution to availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (SDG 6) [cf. PC 133/5; PC 133/5 Sup.1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The principles of sustainable water resources (both surface and ground) management will be adopted while applying landscape approach at the sub-watershed level. The recharge levels will be consistently determined through SWALIM, and the utilization will be planned in line with replenishment capacity.

						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement or reinforce community-based water management structures/groups that involve local stakeholders in planning and execution. This can include rainwater harvesting, rehabilitation of water points, and training on sustainable water use and co-communal management.
<p>ESS 2.2 Could the project implement irrigation activities? AND/OR: Potentially lead to wastewater or runoff of contaminated water? AND/OR: restrict or alter riverine systems (e.g. dams, reservoirs, river basin development, significant water diversion or withdrawals)?</p>	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	<p>* Promote integrated water resources management approaches; * More than 20 ha of irrigation, or improving existing irrigation schemes: The ICID-checklist will be included in the prodoc or Environmental and Social Assesment, as well as appropriate actions to mitigate identified potential negative impacts; * FAO activities will avoid direct discharge of wastewater into freshwater courses, marine coastal areas, and surface runoff originating from production units or processing areas.</p>	<p>Solid or water waste will be generated during the infrastructure construction works period and not the whole project timespan.</p> <p>Generation and disposal of solid waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Contractor will ensure efficient use of construction materials to minimize the waste to be generated from the rehabilitation of the canal system. The contractor(s) waste management plan should include disposal of excavated material, which cannot be re-used. The contractor(s) will provide

bins on site for collection and disposal of plastic waste and polythene materials such as lubricant containers, drinking water sachets and carrier bags which will be regularly emptied at approved dump site.

- Workers will be sensitized to adhere to waste management measures

The project is implementing irrigation activities mainly through rehabilitating irrigation schemes and invest in water-saving technologies to mitigate the drying up of rivers; an integrated approach will be used that combines rehabilitating secondary/tertiary canals, small scale water storage complimented with drip irrigation aiming at optimum use of water resources on one hand and minimize the leakages and losses, which at present is the major issue. Thus the project, through its inbuilt activities, is ensuring water conservation as well as minimizing the risk of water logging through the combination of adequate water spreading on conservative basis, mainly following the agroecological principles.

						<p>Additionally, prior to the implementation the project shall define new climate-proof infrastructure standards for adequately addressing the flooding, runoffs, leakages, drainage, waterlogging, etc.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Use of digital solutions to monitor impact of activities, illegal actions or specific situations (SWALIM, satellite imageries, geotagged photos, etc).</p>
ESS 2.3 Could the project implement activities on, or potentially lead to, degraded, depleted or polluted soil?	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Follow the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management; * Following the guiding principles of the Revised World Soil Charter; * Utilize the Protocol for the assessment of Sustainable Soil Management to assess impact on soil health; 	<p>The rehabilitation activities will be designed in a way to ensure minimum permanent soil damage of the productive soil.</p> <p>Soil depletion caused due to rehabilitation activities</p>

						<p>will be mitigated through eco-system based approaches while planning and implementing integrated landscape approach.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Use of digital solutions to monitor impact of activities, illegal actions or specific situations (SWALIM, satellite imageries, geotagged photos, etc).</p>
ESS 2.4.1 Could the project directly or indirectly result in procurement, supply and/or use of pesticides on crops, livestock, aquaculture or forestry?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	<p>* See World Health Organization hazard classification;</p> <p>* Utilize Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Vector Management approaches as the frameworks for sustainable pest management;</p> <p>* The types and quantities of pesticides and the associated application and protective equipment that people are provided with must always comply with the conditions specified in FAO's Framework for Environmental and Social Management</p>	

					under ESS2 and should be included or referenced in the project document.	
ESS 2.4.2 Could the project include activities related to management or disposal of waste pesticides, obsolete pesticides or pesticide contaminated waste materials?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	Follow the guidance in the FAO Environmental Management Toolkit for obsolete pesticides.	
ESS 2.5 Could the project lead to the use and/or management of fertilizers?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Follow FAO International Code of Conduct for Sustainable Use and Management of Fertilizers (the Fertilizer Code); * Practice Integrated Soil Fertility Management. Utilize the Protocol for the assessment of Sustainable Soil Management to assess impact on soil health; * Include (synthetic and organic) fertilizer and soil nutrient quality analysis according to the standard protocols and guidelines provided by the International Network on Fertilizer Quality. 	The project is promoting agroforestry and organic agriculture practices,
ESS 2.6 Could the project activities lead to the one-time or continuing increase in the release of pollutants with potentially negative impacts on air quality, the environment and/or local communities?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Examples include black carbon, methane and other short-lived climate pollutants, nitrous oxide, ozone-depleting substances, petroleum hydrocarbons, Persistent Organic Pollutants, heavy metals, large amounts of agroplastics etc; * Follow the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management; * Use performance levels and measures that are specified in national law or that are in accordance with good international practice, whichever are more stringent; * Avoid and minimize significant emissions in previously polluted or degraded areas. 	
ESS 2.7 Could the project lead to: Significant generation and handling of wastes (e.g. plastic, wastewater, pesticide-related waste, veterinary waste or animal residue); AND/OR: The use of hazardous substances and materials	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Minimize adverse impacts on the environment e.g. through energy-efficient machinery and equipment, cleaner production methods, nature-based	The use of hazardous substances and materials that may have negative environmental impacts will be limited. The project will limit the use of plastic

that may have negative environmental impacts?					solutions, green designs, sustainable infrastructure and procurement, etc.	bags even to raise tree plantlets, avoid the use of pesticides by promoting organic plant protection techniques. Animal residue at the contrary will be used to enhance soil fertility and cannot be considered as a waste. The machinery that will be provided to farmers is small scale equipment which waste is easily manageable on farm.
---	--	--	--	--	--	---

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
ESS 3 - Climate change and disaster risk reduction Could the project positively or negatively affect people's vulnerability to climate change?	Yes	Likely	Low	Low		
ESS 3.1 Could the project activities negatively affect communities not targeted by the project that rely on the same natural resources? E.g. a community that depends on the same river downstream.	No	Unlikely	Low Impact	Low		Established communication CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to beneficiaries other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).

ESS 3.2 Could beneficiaries develop dependencies on climate-adaptation resources or services promoted by the project that may be hard to maintain after project completion (due to factors such as cost, expertise, etc.)?	Yes	Likely	Low	Low		<p>The Landscape management plans are taking into consideration upstream and downstream communities,. The rehabilitation of secondary and tertiary canals will help better manage the excess of water and flooding</p> <p>Landscape management plan implemented along with capacity building to Landscape Management Committees and Water User Committees to address sustainability issues. Furthermore, a fee mechanisms at WUAC will be set up to ensure the maintenance of canals after project completion</p>

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
<p>ESS 4 - Decent work</p> <p>Could the project positively or negatively affect working conditions, generate employment or provide work-related training or technical support?</p>	Yes	Highly Likely	Moderate	Moderate		<p>The project promotes compliance with national and international employment and labor regulations and guidelines. All employment relationships will be based on the principle of equal opportunity and fair treatment and will not</p>

discriminate, particularly as women, youth and minorities are targeted. Training and sensitization campaigns will be carried for farmers/FOs on Occupational, Health, and Safety (OHS) child labour and appropriate work for youth. The project supports knowledge generation and will generate youth/women opportunities in selected value chains and support rural youth/women/PLWD access to information and productive resources. The project will ensure that children under aged are not employed, adequate and verifiable mechanisms for age verification in recruitment procedures will be set. Project will conduct sensitization training on safe, decent rural employment and age-appropriate work, given that youth often assist with the farming work.

Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound

						SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).
ESS 4.1 Could the project lead to work-related training, cash for work, or will the project employ people?	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low	<p>* These activities are positive if they contribute to decent work. They can cause unintended harm if the regulatory context and working conditions in the project sites are poor and not properly addressed in the project. Examples of weak regulatory contexts include not meeting national labour laws or international commitments or with such high levels of informality that national regulations do not apply or cannot be monitored;</p> <p>* Poor working conditions may include discriminatory practices, high gender inequality and the lack of equal opportunities, denial of freedom of association and collective bargaining, no respect of minimum wages or low pay below the national poverty line, discrimination of migrant workers or specific groups of marginalized workers, etc.</p>	<p>FAO Somalia CFW Standard Operating Procedures</p> <p>Occupational Health and Safety assessment.</p> <p>Supplier Code of Conduct</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>The project will build the capacity of Farmers' Cooperatives, Farmers' Associations and will employ people to carry out all the infrastructure work. Furthermore, the project through value chain development and strengthening of agriculture production will</p>

						contribute to job creation (wage labor).
ESS 4.2 Could the project use, or operate in, a value chain where there have been reports of forced labour? Or will it work in areas with increased risk of forced labour e.g. crisis, fragile and conflict-affected area or a host community for internal migration or refugees?	Yes	Likely	Low	Low	Note that risks of forced labour may be increased for projects located in remote places or where migrant workers are employed.	<p>Compliance monitoring of child labour, underaged registration in productive sectors; specific clauses in FAO contractual documents; UN Suppliers Code of Conduct with specific reference to PSEA and Child Labour.</p> <p>AAP, PSEA and Protection policies, guidelines and actions; compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>The project will operate in areas where there have been reports of forced labour because of the very fragile context of Somalia. Nevertheless, FAO Somalia is used to apply mitigation measures as per FAO's ESS procedures and has a compliance unit ensuring</p>

						all procedures are applied. A GRM is already in place.
ESS 4.3 Could the project operate in a context or agricultural value chains where there have been recent documented reports of child labour?	Yes	Highly Likely	Moderate	Moderate	<p>* Note that project activities (e.g. generating employment, providing training/technical support) may lead to work that is typically hazardous to children, such as work at night, work at height, exposure to chemicals, or work under water. Refer to the International Labour Organization's Handbook on Hazardous Child Labour;</p> <p>* Risks of child labour in food and agriculture systems exist especially as unpaid family labour, in all sub-sectors of agriculture and not only in more commercial commodities;</p> <p>* If the project engages youth, take action to anticipate risk of engaging young people aged 14-17 in child labour by changing design or introducing complementary measures.</p>	<p>Compliance monitoring of child labour, underaged registration in productive sectors; specific clauses in FAO contractual documents; UN Suppliers Code of Conduct with specific reference to PSEA and Child Labour.</p> <p>AAP, PSEA and Protection policies, guidelines and actions; compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p>
ESS 4.4 Could the project: (a) operate in a sector, area or value chain where producers and other agricultural workers are typically exposed to significant occupational and safety risks, and/or (b) promote or use technologies or practices that pose occupational safety and	Yes	Unlikely	High	Moderate	<p>* OSH risks in agriculture might include: dangerous machinery and tools, hazardous chemicals, toxic or allergenic agents, carcinogenic substances or agents, parasitic diseases, transmissible animal diseases, confined spaces, ergonomic hazards, extreme temperatures, and contact with</p>	<p>Occupation accidents and risk to health and safety of workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The contractor will ensure regular maintenance and servicing of its bulldozers,

<p>health (OSH) risks to farmers, other rural workers or rural populations in general?</p>				<p>dangerous and poisonous animals, reptiles and insects; * Psychosocial hazards might include violence and harassment; * Awareness raising and capacity development activities on the needed gender-responsive OSH measures should be included in project design to ensure workers' safety and health, including for informal workers; * Complementary measures can include measures to reduce risks and protect workers, as well as children working or playing on the farm, such as alternatives to pesticides, improved handling and storage of pesticides, etc.</p>	<p>excavators and tractors as well as other machinery to ensure they are in good condition. Good conditioned and well-maintained equipment will reduce frequent breakdowns, noise nuisance and smoke emissions which could affect the operator's and other workers' health and safety;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractor will provide first aid kits at the project site during land preparation and construction activities to treat minor ailments. However, major cases will be referred to the nearest hospital or health post; • Contractor will also provide and enforce the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as safety boots, reflective jackets, hand gloves, earplugs and nose masks. • Contractor will brief the workers on Environment, Health and Safety issues and what to do to safeguard the environment and avoid accidents or injuries. • The project will build on the office mechanism of Grievance Redress. The contractor must share the channels of the GRM of FAOSOM office with all individuals
--	--	--	--	---	--

						<p>to address any complaints from the workers employed in the project.</p> <p>Potential risks for producers/farmers would be limited as follows: (i) Some Land restoration activities will be implemented by communities which will not be exposed to OSH as they will use manual equipment and no chemicals, (ii) some of the land restoration activities such as Check dams or canal rehabilitation will be implemented through contractors using heavy machinery (contractors will make sure maintenance of machinery as well as applying OSH measures), (iii) no chemical inputs will be provided to farmers but mostly seeds, fodder/forest tree plantlets.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
<p>ESS 5 - Community Health, Safety and Security</p> <p>Could the project positively or negatively affect health, safety and livelihoods of communities (including women, men, youth, as well as marginalized, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups)?</p>	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low Impact		<p>AAP, PSEA and Protection policies, guidelines and actions; compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Safe delivery modalities developed (Mobile</p>

						<p>Money, registration and distribution at village level, etc.)</p> <p>Sensitive Conflict Programing, and specific targeting of discriminated and marginalized groups. Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p>
<p>ESS 5.1 Could the project expose communities to health risks such as: pollution and the contamination of land, resources or food; biological hazards, including transboundary animal diseases; incidents of soil-borne, water-borne, vector-borne diseases, zoonotic diseases, food-borne diseases; the availability of drinking water; injuries; and detrimental effects on mental health and well-being?</p>	No	UnLikely	Low Impact	Low Impact	<p>Note that where endemic disease (e.g., malaria) exists in the project areas, it should explore ways to improve environmental conditions that could minimize the incidence of these diseases.</p>	<p>The project does not expose communities to health risks: animals will be procured locally, the project will promote agroecology and organic agricultural practices to avoid any soil borne or water borne disease or zoonotic disease. The project activities are addressing the community priorities as shown in the SEP and will contribute to their well being.</p>

<p>ESS 5.2 Could the project jeopardize the availability, accessibility and/or affordability of safe and nutritious foods that contribute to healthy and balanced diets? E.g. by sourcing foods from polluted sources.</p>	No	Unlikely	Low impact	Low	<p>An FAO programme or project that supports healthy dietary patterns should adhere to the FAO/WHO guiding principles for sustainable healthy diets; promote all dimensions of individuals health and well-being; have low environmental pressure and impact; and be accessible, affordable, safe, equitable and culturally acceptable.</p>	<p>In the contrary, the project will contribute to increase food availability</p>
<p>ESS 5.3 Could the project expose communities to hazardous materials or equipment e.g. agricultural machinery accessible to the community, design or construction of new infrastructure, changes to existing infrastructure, transportation, or storage?</p>	Yes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate		<p>Rehabilitation/construction of infrastructure will be conducted in full alignment with national legal requirements and applicable obligations and standards. Potential safety risks to third parties and communities will be evaluated as part of the health and safety assessments.</p> <p>The machinery provided to the farmers' cooperatives or farmers' associations is limited and small scale. Construction companies are responsible of the machinery used for construction and will not expose communities.</p>
<p>ESS 5.4 Could the project lead to an influx of project workers?</p>	Yes	Unlikely	Low Impact	Low Impact		<p>Stakeholder engagement, and coordination and collaboration with government authorities, local NGOs, and community-based organizations.</p> <p>The project is designed to target specific locations,</p>

						<p>communities and beneficiaries. Communication campaign will inform the communities of the criteria for registration and will involve local communities' leaders and local implementing partner to sensitize and inform communities.</p> <p>Unfair targeting and registration are addressed via established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p>
ESS 5.5 Could the project have impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services that may result in direct and indirect health and safety risks to communities? E.g. loss of natural buffer that increases the risk of flooding.	No	Unlikely	Low	Low		The project by rehabilitating canals and consolidation of river embankments will contribute to protect agricultural land and villages from flooding
ESS 5.6 Could the project construct buildings or infrastructure; and/or be implemented in an area of increased vulnerability to earthquakes,	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low Impact		The area is not prone to earthquakes and landslides, however the

subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding, forest fire?						<p>project will protect against flooding through canal rehabilitation, the project is contributing to land restoration and will then contain erosion, measures to protect river embankments using fodder tree/shrub species will be implemented.</p> <p>The project, if area is subject to floods will be informed via SWALIM bulletins and alert messages (radio, SMS, on the ground)</p>
ESS 5.7 Could the project lead to the engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low Impact	Note that FAO will take action (or require appropriate parties to take action) to prevent any recurrence of abuses and/or reprisals against individuals and communities. When necessary, FAO will report unlawful and abusive acts to the appropriate authorities.	FAO and UNDSS Security assessment, Accessibility assessment, Government, Community and Local Leaders engagement.

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
ESS 6 - Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) Could the project positively or negatively affect people based on their gender, through activities or policy?	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low Impact		
ESS 6.1 Could the project lead to increased gender-based discrimination or inequalities?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	For example through: * Not assessing social identities intersecting with gender (such as age, minorities and	FAO Guide how to eliminate GBV and protect

				<p>disabilities), which can exacerbate inequality);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Not addressing gender dimensions when providing policy advice; * Increasing the work burden for women; * Perpetuating women's poor labour conditions or displacing work currently carried out by women to men; * Using approaches that are not culturally and socially contextualized nor accepted; * Engaging implementing partners/service providers that are not gender-sensitive; * Excluding or failing to engage women in decision-making and planning processes; * Overlooking the specific constraints women face in gaining access to resources (natural and productive) and services (advisory and financial); * Not engaging/sensitizing men and boys in efforts to address gender inequalities and women's empowerment; * Overlooking women's major capacities and their skills (leadership/negotiation/technical) and knowledge gaps. 	<p>rural communities through FS&AG intervention.</p> <p>AAP, PSEA and Protection policies, guidelines and actions; compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Safe delivery modalities developed (Mobile Money, registration and distribution at village level, avoid exposing women to harmful event, etc.)</p> <p>Gender specific targeting and activity adaptation; Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>Gender is mainstreamed in the project design and women will be targeted in</p>
--	--	--	--	--	---

						all activities (50% of beneficiaries will be women). Women participation and representation will be enhanced in farmers' organizations, cooperatives, water users' committee. And landscape management committees.
ESS 6.2 Could this project operate in a context with high risks of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls, such as in conflicts situation, camps or shelters, areas where women's mobility is restricted, or with high numbers of poor female-headed households or unaccompanied minors?	Yes	Likely	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Note that any person can be the perpetrator of GBV; * Refer to the GBV assessment conducted by the national UN GBV cluster if available, and consider these guiding questions: What are the socio-cultural factors affecting the groups who will directly or indirectly benefit or be affected by FAO's intervention/response? (age, gender, health and wealth status, disabilities etc.); What are the gender and other intersecting factors affecting the target groups that might render them more susceptible to GBV (high vulnerabilities among single female headed households, children, ethnic groups, elderly, disabled and refugees)?; * Examples of GBV include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ** Increased violence in the household as women are the sole recipients of inputs and services; ** Violence against women and girls residing in refugee camps; ** Gender insensitivity among project partners and project team; ** People excluded from activities (i.e. training and distribution of inputs) by other members of their communities, based on their gender, age or ethnic group; ** Not allowing women and youth to participate in negotiation tables around climate change and planning humanitarian assistance; ** Giving access at night to irrigation for women exposing them to increased risks of 	<p>FAO Guide how to eliminate GBV and protect rural communities through FS&AG intervention.</p> <p>AAP, PSEA and Protection policies, guidelines and actions; compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Safe delivery modalities developed (Mobile Money, registration and distribution at village level, avoid exposing women to harmful event, etc.)</p> <p>Gender specific targeting and activity adaptation; Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Government, Local Leaders and Implementing Partners engagement for facilitation and mediation.</p>

					<p>GBV; ** Excluding men and boys from project activities, raising competition within households and communities; ** Arrangement of refugee camps that might increase risks of violence against women and girls, as well as against men and boys; ** Water scarcity in pastoral communities creating competition among poor people with limited resources.</p>	<p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p> <p>FAO Somalia has designed a gender project level action plan and all project indicators are gender sensitive. All project activities will contribute to reduce gender based discrimination as it will enhance further women contribution to decision making and empowerment and representation in Cooperatives, Farmers' Associations.</p>
<p>ESS 6.3 How is the project planning to address Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) risks? (Describe risk mitigation measures in the comments column)</p>					<p>* Note that SEA would refer to misconduct by FAO employees, or any other personnel associated with the work of FAO, against beneficiaries and vulnerable populations, meaning any person who benefits or may benefit from FAO assistance, including any vulnerable member of the affected population (not limited to women, children, elderly, disabled, ethnic minorities, etc.); * Examples of risk mitigation measures: ** Budgetary support to Prevention of SEA (PSEA) such as for hiring PSEA expertise, raising awareness in the local communities</p>	<p>By implementing FAO Somalia Compliance, Risk Management and Accountability framework as well as the project Gender Action Plan.</p> <p>Dedicated unit of Compliance, Risk Management and Accountability with</p>

					<p>etc;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * * Ensure all project staff completed the mandatory FAO course on SEA before starting their work (in particular frontline workers e.g. M&E personnel, personnel involved in the distribution of inputs and/or cash; drivers, security guards supporting the project implementation etc); * * Assess PSEA capacity of project IPs before engaging with them and build their capacity accordingly; * * Sensitize project staff working on stakeholder engagement (in particular at community level) on how to communicate effectively on SEA (i.e. language and means of communication); * * Ensuring project beneficiaries/local community know how to submit complaints on SEA issues (i.e. OIG FAO hotline); * * Make use of inter-agency/joint Community Based Complaint Mechanism and SEA referral pathways (when applicable); * * Sensitize project staff on the importance of confidentiality when dealing with SEA matters. <p>* For more information, see the ESS 6 Guidance Note and the SEA section in the GBV assessment conducted by the GBV sub-cluster/sub-sector in the project country if available;</p> <p>* Stored data, including documents and material related to SEA allegations, should only be accessible to authorized persons and must be stored safely to prevent accidental disclosure. Options for secure data storage include locked filing cabinets; digital storage on a secure server, computer or laptop; and official cloud storage.</p>	National Senior PSEA profile in the team.
--	--	--	--	--	--	---

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
---	--------	------------	--------	---------------	--------------------	-----------------------------------

<p>ESS 7 - Land tenure, displacement, and resettlement</p> <p>Could the project, through activities or policy, positively or negatively affect areas where people live or their access to locations they need for their livelihood? Note that this includes tenure rights that are not formally recognized.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Not foreseen in the project; in case there will be attempt, FAO will address the matter with the highest authority of FMS and FGS.</p> <p>Project will employ Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests and incorporate land tenure assessment as part of the landscape/watershed strategies.</p> <p>The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not be used for land acquisition. No set aside land or additional conservation areas will be established as part of the project. Reforestation/rehabilitation areas will take place mainly on public or community land (executed by region administrations) or interventions on private land (executed by communities with funding from the project) and will focus on areas where such interventions can facilitate or leverage improved productivity through ecosystem services. Proposed activities will</p>
---	------------	-----------------	------------	------------	---

						mostly imply the involvement of districts on a purely voluntary and demand-driven basis.
ESS 7.1 Could the project activities lead to voluntary, temporary or permanent, full or partial physical displacement of people in the project area? I.e. people may be living in the project sites and be asked to move.	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	Follow the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security.	Not foreseen in the project; in case there will be attempt, FAO will address the matter with the highest authority of FMS and FGS.
ESS 7.2 Has there to the best of your knowledge been prior displacement in anticipation of the project?	No	Unlikely	Low	Low	If yes, contact the ESM Unit for guidance ESM-unit@fao.org.	Not foreseen in the project; in case there will be attempt, FAO will address the matter with the highest authority of FMS and FGS.
ESS 7.3 Could any of the project activities be expected to lead, even unintentionally, to the loss of ownership of, use of, or access rights to resources (agricultural or livestock or fish production, forest products, soil, land and water resources, grazing areas, etc.)? I.e. people may be using the project sites for their livelihoods and lose access. *In case this affects Indigenous Peoples, see also ESS 8.	Yes	Unlikely	Low	Low	* Examples include: * * Loss of land and access to land or natural resources needed to support livelihoods; * * Loss of jobs and sources of livelihoods; * * Reduced access to markets; * * Dislocation from social networks. * Follow the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security.	Not foreseen in the project; in case there will be attempt, FAO will address the matter with the highest authority of FMS and FGS. Project will employ Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests and incorporate land tenure assessment as part of the landscape/watershed strategies. The project activities will not lead to involuntary resettlement or displacement of people or communities; resources from the project will not

						<p>be used for land acquisition. No set aside land or additional conservation areas will be established as part of the project.</p> <p>Reforestation/rehabilitation areas will take place mainly on public or community land (executed by region administrations) or interventions on private land (executed by communities with funding from the project) and will focus on areas where such interventions can facilitate or leverage improved productivity through ecosystem services.</p> <p>Proposed activities will mostly imply the involvement of districts on a purely voluntary and demand-driven basis.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	---

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
<p>ESS 8 - Indigenous Peoples</p> <p>Could the project positively or negatively affect Indigenous Peoples, through activities or policy?</p>	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low		<p>Stakeholder engagement, and coordination and collaboration with government authorities, local NGOs, and community-based organizations.</p> <p>AAP, PSEA and Protection policies, guidelines and</p>

						<p>actions; compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Sensitive Conflict Programing, and specific consideration of discriminated and marginalized groups. Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p>
ESS 8.1 Could the project be located on or near lands and territories owned or claimed by Indigenous Peoples?	Yes	Likely	Low Impact	Low	<p>If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Plan for a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Process as this is required; * Include FPIC expertise in design/project team; * Please contact the ESM/PSUI unit as needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Plan for a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Process will be developed in inclusive manner; * The plan will be implemented along side the implementation of project interventions <p>Sensitive Conflict Programing, and specific consideration of discriminated and</p>

						<p>marginalized groups. Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p>
<p>ESS 8.2 Could the project potentially negatively affect Indigenous Peoples, through its activities or policy advice - e.g. effects on their human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods?</p>	No	Unlikely	Low Impact	Low	<p>If moderate or high-risk: * Plan for an FPIC Process as this is required; * Include FPIC expertise in design/project team; * Please contact the ESM/PSUI unit as needed.</p>	<p>Sensitive Conflict Programing, and specific consideration of discriminated and marginalized groups. Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo</p>

						system, radio campaigns, etc).
ESS 8.3 Could the project use genetic resources or associated knowledge from Indigenous Peoples for research or commercial purposes?	No	N/A	N/A	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Refer to the Nagoya Protocol and the Convention on Biological Diversity introduction to access and benefit-sharing; * If you answered the question with "yes": ** Note that IPs must be informed of their rights under national and international law; ** Plan for an FPIC Process as this is required; ** Include FPIC expertise in design/project team; ** Contact PSUI and ITPGRFA as needed. 	
ESS 8.4 Could the project negatively affect Indigenous Peoples' access to resources upon which their livelihoods depend ("economic displacement")?	No	Unlikely	Low impact	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Follow the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security; * Adhere to FAO's Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. 	<p>Sensitive Conflict Programing, and specific consideration of discriminated and marginalized groups. Compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Established communication and CFM mechanisms that provide several channels to communities, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to receive information, give feedback and complaints to FAO Somalia (hotline, Call Centre, Voice and Text inbound and outbound SMS, TPM and FM, CoCo system, radio campaigns, etc).</p>

Environmental and Social Safeguard question	Answer	Likelihood	Impact	Risk category	Reference Guidance	Risk mitigation measures (if any)
ESS 9 - Cultural Heritage Could the project positively or negatively affect tangible or intangible cultural heritage, through activities or policy?	No					
ESS 9.1 Could the project through activities or policy advice negatively affect places, objects, values or knowledge and practices of cultural importance to communities?	No	Unlikely	Low impact	Low	<p>* For example, the project may affect communities' lands, natural resources, territories, water sources, sites of memory, structures or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, scientific, (oral) traditional or religious values and rituals, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, cultural expressions, performing arts. "Cultural expressions" are those expressions that result from the creativity of individuals, groups and societies, and that have cultural content;</p> <p>* Note that in case cultural heritage of Indigenous Peoples is affected by the project, ESS 8 requirements also apply (e.g. FPIC);</p> <p>* Screening for this safeguard will be done with full and effective participation of local people. Where a project or programme proposes to use cultural heritage, including knowledge, innovations or practices of local communities for the benefit of the project or for commercial purposes, communities should be informed of their rights under national law, the scope and nature of the proposed use, and the potential consequences. Documented consent should be obtained.</p>	
ESS 9.2 Could the project lead to excavations, flooding, demolitions, movement of earth,	No	Unlikely	Low impact	Low	Screening for this safeguard will be done with full and effective participation of local	

landscape transformation, or alteration to social/ cultural uses or heritage?					people. Their documented consent should be obtained.
ESS 9.3 Could the project lead to the use of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. collections, areas, practices, traditional knowledge) of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No	Unlikely	Low impact	Low	Screening for this safeguard will be done with full and effective participation of local people. Their documented consent should be obtained.

ESS 3.3 - The table below presents the climate risk and the recommended actions.

Country	Climate Risk score	Recommendation
Somalia	High Risk Based on the country/countries, the recommended climate risk score is: High	As soon as subnational project areas are known, the PTF is encouraged to use the free-of-cost full version of the CRTB to screen for more site-specific risks and obtain tailored guidance. Please watch this video before performing the screening or contact ESM-Unit@fao.org for support.

Appendix 6: Terms of Reference for Safeguard Document Preparation

A10.1 Template for development of an Environmental and Social Management Plan

ESOP 1 indicates that, for projects that are screened as being either high-risk or moderate-risk, an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) should be produced. The ESMP should be integrated into the overall project design.

The ESMP consists of a set of mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures, including policies, procedures and practices – as well as the actions needed to implement these measures – to achieve the desired environmental and social outcomes.

An ESMP documents the project’s risk management strategy. It serves as an “umbrella document” that integrates the findings of all impact studies carried out during the design phase, the plans and other provisions for complying with the requirements of the Standards that have been triggered, as well as country-and-site-specific information relevant for the project’s risk management strategy.

Recognizing the dynamic nature of the project development and implementation process, the implementation of an ESMP will be responsive to changes in project circumstances, unforeseen events, and the results of monitoring.

An ESMP will consist of separate sections on:

- (i) environmental and social impact mitigation;
- (ii) environmental and social monitoring;
- (iii) capacity development;
- (iv) stakeholder engagement; and,
- (v) an implementation action plan.

Mitigation

Identifies measures and actions in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy that avoid, or if avoidance not possible, reduce potentially significant adverse social and environmental impacts to acceptable levels. Specifically, the ESMP: (a) identifies and summarizes all anticipated significant adverse social and environmental impacts; (b) describes – with technical details – each mitigation measure, including the type of impact to which it relates and the conditions under which it is required (e.g., continuously or in the event of contingencies), together with designs, equipment descriptions, and operating procedures, as appropriate; (c) estimates any potential social and environmental impacts of these measures and any residual impacts following mitigation; and (d) takes into account, and is consistent with, other required mitigation plans (e.g. for displacement, Indigenous Peoples).

Monitoring

Identifies monitoring objectives and specifies the type of monitoring, with linkages to the impacts assessed in the environmental and social assessment and the mitigation measures described in the ESMP. Specifically, the monitoring section of the ESMP provides: (a) a specific description, and technical details, of monitoring measures, including the parameters to be measured, methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements, detection limits (where appropriate), and definition of thresholds that will signal the need for corrective actions; and (b) monitoring and reporting procedures to (i) ensure early detection of conditions that necessitate particular mitigation measures, and (ii) furnish information on the progress and results of mitigation.

Capacity development and training

To support timely and effective implementation of social and environmental project components and mitigation measures, the ESMP draws on the environmental and social assessment of the existence, role, and capability of responsible parties on site or at the agency and ministry level. Specifically, the ESMP provides a description of institutional arrangements, identifying which party is responsible for carrying out the mitigation and monitoring measures (e.g. for operation, supervision, enforcement, monitoring of implementation, remedial action, financing, reporting, and staff training). Where support for strengthening

social and environmental management capability is identified, the ESMP recommends the establishment or expansion of the parties responsible, the training of staff and any additional measures that may be necessary to support implementation of mitigation measures and any other recommendations of the environmental and social assessment.

Stakeholder Engagement

Outlines plan to engage in meaningful, effective and informed consultations with affected stakeholders. Includes information on (a) means used to inform and involve affected people in the assessment process; (b) summary of stakeholder engagement plan for meaningful, effective consultations during project implementation, including identification of milestones for consultations, information disclosure, and periodic reporting on progress on project implementation; and (c) description of effective processes for receiving and addressing stakeholder concerns and grievances regarding the project's environmental and social performance. Implementation action plan (schedule and cost estimates) For all four above aspects (mitigation, monitoring, capacity development, and stakeholder engagement), the ESMP provides (a) an implementation schedule for measures that must be carried out as part of the project, showing phasing and coordination with overall project implementation plans; and (b) the capital and recurrent cost estimates and sources of funds for implementing the ESMP. These figures are also integrated into the total project cost tables. Each of the measures and actions to be implemented will be clearly specified and the costs of so doing will be integrated into the project's overall planning, design, budget, and implementation.

A10.2 Template for development of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

Once it has been decided from the review of environmental screening checklists, that an environmental impact assessment (ESIA) study is required, and the following steps must be carried out:

- Clearly state the objectives of the ESIA for sub project (extractive project), summarize the scope of the ESIA and its timing relative to project preparation, design, and approval. Within the scope of the study, outline the time, space and jurisdictional boundaries of the study. Furthermore, identify the tasks and studies to be carried out, information deficiencies to be addressed, methodologies etc.
- Provide details on target sub-project activities, which are subject to an ESIA, and their function, and provide information on the relevant activities of the License Holder that are causing environmental and social impacts, use pictures and maps (at appropriate scale) where deemed necessary;
- Identify the relevant Afghan regulations and guidelines governing the conduct of the ESIA and/or specify the content of the report. Provide information on the pertinent regulations and standards governing social and environmental quality, health and safety, protection of sensitive areas, protection of endangered species, land use control, etc.
- Identify and address the relevant ESF environmental and social standards, applicable environmental health and safety guidelines.
- Identify gaps between the National Regulations and guidelines and world bank ESF and propose gap filling measures.
- Describe the situation by presenting baseline data on the relevant environmental characteristics of the study area. Include information on any changes anticipated by the support of AGASP project;
- Determine the potential impacts of the proposed project: distinguish between significant positive and negative impacts, direct and indirect impacts, and immediate and long-term impacts. Identify impacts that are unavoidable or irreversible. Wherever possible, describe impacts quantitatively, in terms of environmental costs and benefits;
- Analyze and describe alternatives which would achieve the same objective(s), exploring technological, economical and other appropriate criteria;
- Together with social expert or team assigned for conducting Social Impact Assessment, carryout review and analyze the social dimension of the project, particularly the i) review of the land

ownership documentation where land is required for project, ii) ensure that allocated land for project is free of squatters and any disputes, iii) ensure application of Grievance Redress Mechanism and proper recording of grievances, and provide inputs in the development of ESMP.

- Prepare a pragmatic management plan to avoid and mitigate negative impacts: recommend feasible and cost-effective measures to prevent or reduce significant negative impacts to acceptable levels and describe the actions necessary to implement them: prepare the plans identified in ESMF such as ESMP, SEP, Labor management plan, Emergency preparedness and response plan, OHS plan, labor influx risk mitigation plan, safety awareness program,
- Identify the institutional needs to implement environmental & social assessment recommendations by reviewing the authority and capability of institutions at mining company, local, provincial/regional, and national levels. Recommend steps to strengthen or expand them so that management and monitoring plans in environmental assessment may be implemented;
- Design a detailed Environmental Management Plan, propose budget for its implementation, layout institutional arrangements. Develop monitoring plan for the implementation of mitigation measures, and set indicators to track the progress against the desired objective of the Environmental impact study;
- Consult stakeholders and describe the arrangements for obtaining the views of local CSOs and affected groups and for keeping records of meetings and other activities, communications, and comments at their deposition;
- Prepare a professional ESIA report, keeping it concise and limited to significant environmental issues, with the focus on key findings, conclusions and recommended actions.

A10.3 Template for Development of an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP)

The consultant will be required to present the IPP³⁸ according to following format (whilst ensuring alignment with the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy):

1. Description of Indigenous Peoples and members of excluded/ marginalized groups, including any relevant social/political arrangements, decision making processes, and baseline information about their social and economic conditions;
2. Description of activities to be conducted in the area (It will be listed from the identified intervention packages for the project)
3. Elaborate FPIC process for particular community, and include proof of iterative discussions and (if obtained) consent or proof of refusal to participate in the project;
4. Results of the consultations/FPIC, include the positive and negative impacts expected based on the project's sub-project activities and preferred Grievance Redress Mechanism or any instances in which project activity implementation will differ because of the preferences of the IP community; and
5. Description of how stakeholder consultations with IPs will continue being held throughout implementation.
6. If applicable, IPP Management Plans will:
 - Identify mitigation measures to address potential negative impacts identified, as well as additional actions/measures geared toward promoting greater social inclusion to ensure IPs and people from excluded/ marginalized groups can benefit from project activities/support;
 - Indicators to monitor implementation of the IP Management Plans;

³⁸ The concept of Indigenous Peoples, as defined internationally, does not directly translate into the Somali context due to the country's relatively homogenous ethnic composition, dominated by ethnic Somalis who share a common language, religion, and cultural heritage. When mentioning Indigenous Peoples, it specifically refers to minority and marginalized groups within Somalia.

- Roles and responsibilities for implementing specific actions/measures included in the IP Management Plans, as well as monitoring and reporting; and
- Timeframes for the implementation of the IP Management Plans.
- Clearly describe how participatory monitoring and reporting will be conducted at that site.

Appendix 7: Biodiversity Management Planning Framework

1. Introduction to biodiversity of Somalia

Somalia lies in the Horn of Africa biodiversity hotspot, entirely arid in nature, the biome is a renowned source of biological resources. With Acacia-Commiphora as the dominant vegetation type characterized by dense bushland of 3 to 5 m tall with scattered emergent trees up to 9 m tall (mainly multiple-stemmed bushes or small bushy trees that are branched near the base). Representative species are *Acacia bussei*, *Acacia mellifera*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Balanites rotundifolia*, *Boscia coriacea*, *Boswellia sacra* and *B. frereana*, Commiphora myrrha, Commiphora africana, etc. This area is home to a number of endemic and threatened antelopes, notably threatened species like the beira (*Dorcatragus megalotis*), the dibatag (*Ammodorcas clarkei*), and Speke's gazelle (*Gazella spekei*). This hotspot also holds more endemic reptiles than any other region in Africa. Other distinctive endemics include the Somali wild ass (*Equus africanus somaliensis*) and the sacred baboon (*Papio hamadryas*), NBSAP Somalia, 2016. Simultaneously the horn of Africa is also one of the most degraded hotspots in the world, with only about 5% of its original habitat intact.

The status and trends of Somalia's biodiversity and biological resources

Arid and semi-arid conditions prevail in Somalia since ages. This "stability" helped biodiversity evolving in harmony for and adapt to this apparently less-hospitable semi-desert environment. Besides its harsh climate and xeric vegetation, the country is still home to high level of endemism that is rooted in its remarkable location where the two global zones of endemism (Horn of Africa Biodiversity Hotspot and Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa Hotspot) meet each other. Till 1980s the country was reported to host around 3,023 species of higher plants and was thus considered as a centre of floral endemism (White, 1983). However since mid-1980s, the status of wildlife in Somalia was reported as being sparse and scattered due to a combination of livestock grazing and illegal hunting (IUCN/UNEP, 1986). As with the fauna depleted by poaching and land degradation, nevertheless, large concentrations of livestock together with the felling of trees for charcoal and firewood adversely affected species composition, ground cover and the structure of vegetation (NBSAP 2016). Grazing pressure from livestock and soil erosion are now a serious problem and, together with periodic droughts, have had a devastating effect on the vegetation and soils.

Somalia has the longest coastline (over 3000 Km) in continental Africa containing important coral reefs, extensive sea grass beds in near shore waters, seabird colonies and turtle nesting beaches (though currently unprotected). Important seabird nesting sites include Mait Island, Zeila Island, and islets off Mogadishu. According to IUCN – The World Conservation Union, the area has distinct and abundant biodiversity, including 87 species of corals, 140 species of reef fish and the cetaceans includes delphinids such as common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), Spinner Dolphin (*Stenella longirostris*), Spotted Dolphin (*S. attenuate*), etc.

The birds' diversity and presence is also of peculiar nature. Together with this features, the presence of mangroves and sea weeds make these areas suitable for managing as Marine Protected. However, the lack of adequate management on one hand and excessive and illegal use of the marine and coastal resources has impacted the aquatic biodiversity which still has the potential to replenish, notwithstanding requires immediate and appropriate measures.

2. Biodiversity characterization: Terrestrial Biodiversity of Somalia

Rather than administrative or political boundaries, biodiversity follows the ecological regional boundaries therefore the terrestrial biodiversity of Somalia is examined in the context of its five eco-regions that the country shares with its neighbors on all three sides. The terrestrial biodiversity is transboundary in nature as are the ecoregions that the country possesses. The terrestrial biodiversity of Somalia is divided in five ecoregions (agreed by multiple sources such as White, 1983; A.D. Leslie, 1990 and WWF, 2014). Mangrove

vegetation, is however, is dealt in the aquatic biodiversity. Thus for the purpose of the project ESS, the terrestrial biodiversity is elaborated in the ecoregions mainly determined by the vegetation type, however explaining the fauna and flora both (delineated in map ----) with the following five eco-regions:

- a. Acacia – Commiphora bushland: Occupying largest part of Somalia, variable in structure and species, this lies within the Somali-Masai regional center of endemism, and Somali-Masai semi-desert grassland and shrubland. The predominant trees species in the ecoregion belong to the *Acacia* and *Commiphora* genera. In lower elevation, with less rainfall, the vegetation becomes semi-desert scrubland. Forest vegetation once abundant, is now largely been destroyed by human activity. Most of the project region is covered by this eco-region.

- b. Juniperus excelsa forest in the mountainous belt of Golis: Mainly falls in the mountainous belt of Golis, this ecoregion stretches along the coast of Somalia, through both Somaliland and Puntland. It stretches from the Shimbiris Mountain (2,416 m – the highest point in Somalia) east of Hargeysa to Raas Casey, covering the tip of the Horn of Africa and continuing till the Somali coastal plain. The mean rainfall varies from 200 mm in low-lying areas annually to far greater at higher elevations, such as slopes near Maydh receives 700 mm annual, the highest for Somalia. The ecoregion, however is not covering any significant part of the project.

- c. Evergreen and semi – evergreen bushland: This zone is an ecotone between the Acacia Commiphora bushland and *Juniperus excelsa* forest and is found in areas above 1500 meters and with rainfall exceeding 450 mm, this zone can also be found in gullies in lower altitude. The dominant species in this vegetation type is *Buxus hilderbrandtii*, *Aloe eminens*, *Cussonia holstii*, *Dodonea viscosa*, *Euphorbia grandis*, *Pistacea aesthiopica*, etc. At the higher elevation the species composition changes and fuses with the *Juniper* forest. Some parts of the Tugdheer in Somaliland is covered by this ecoregion.

- d. Semi – desert grassland, bushed grassland and bushland: As this ecoregion follow the Somalia-Masai semi-desert grassland and shrubland vegetation zone with two distinct blends of, a. Hobyo grasslands and shrublands - narrow coastal strip along the coast of Indian Ocean stretching from the horn down to south of Mogadishu and b. northern coast of Somalia (*Somaliland*) and b. The Ethiopian xeric grasslands and shrublands, stretches from the horn of Africa to the border with Djibouti. The Hirshabelle area of the project partly falls in this ecoregion.

- e. Zanzibar – Inhambane forest: This is an extension of the northernmost ecoregion of the eastern and southern African coastal forest belt in Somalia and this northern margin forms an isolated forest outlier along the Juba Valley. This eco-region has great diversity of habitats contributes to the unique richness of the eco-region with high endemism among the plants in particular. Natural habitats, especially small forest patches, are highly threatened primarily from conversion to agricultural land, although various forms of extraction also pose significant threats. The region is characterized by the extreme variability in rainfall from year to year, with dry seasons that sometimes extend into droughts and rainy seasons that can cause severe flooding. The lower Juba with Kismayo and other adjacent regions are part of this ecozone.

Figure Somalia vegetation map³⁹



³⁹ The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

3. Overview of proclaimed and legislated protected areas in all project target areas

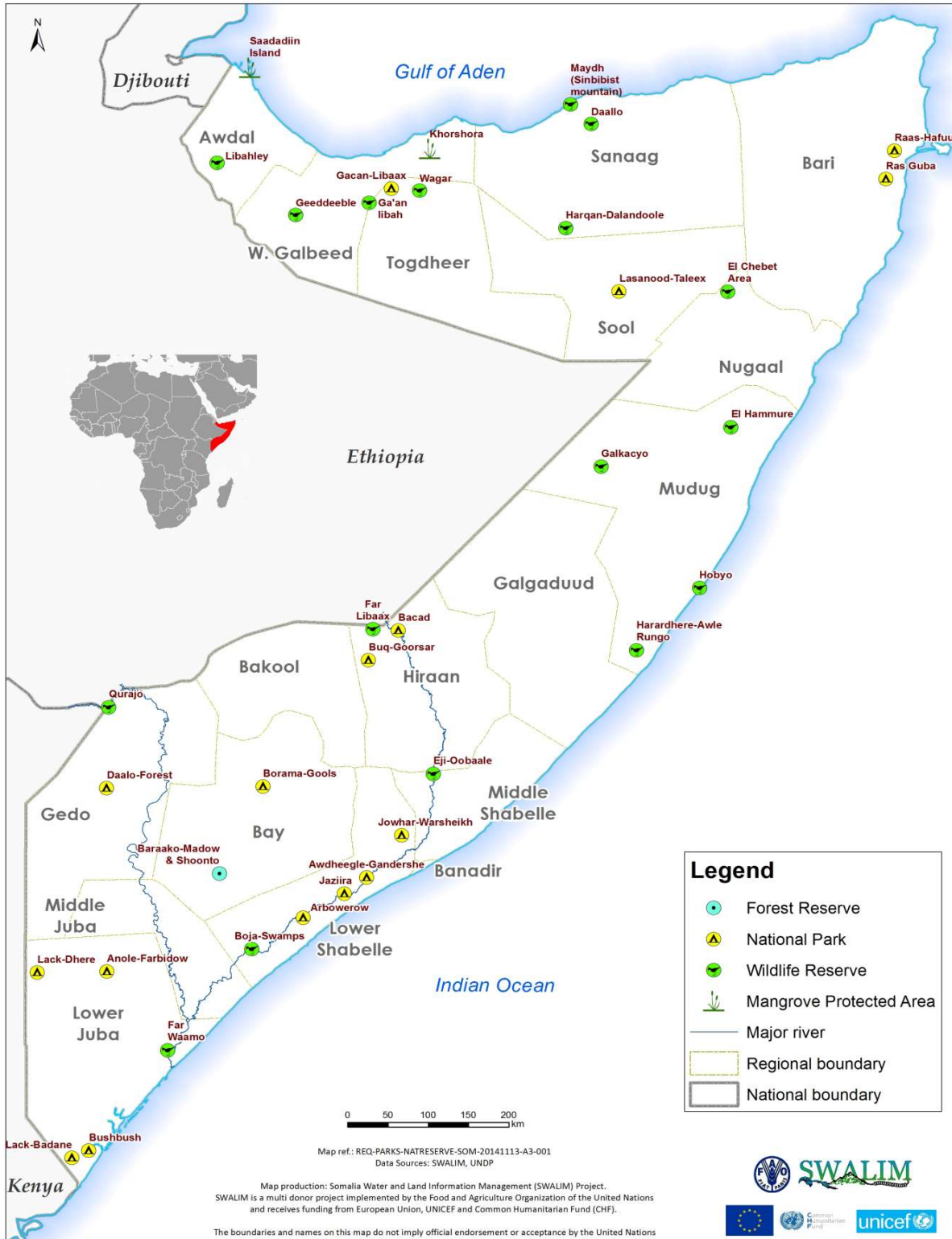
Among the major challenges to manage biodiversity (ecosystem goods and services) includes the weak institutional capacity and the absence of synergy among biodiversity managing actors. Mostly sectoral approaches prevail over coherent/holistic approaches. Additionally, the lack of baseline assessments of biodiversity as well as the impact of developmental activities on ecosystem is not systematically addressed. Although around thirty terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas are considered for management revival (listed in table 1), effective management is still to be put in place. Several institutional areas also need strengthening, among these policy and laws, staffing, skills, technology and networking need due attention. The reversal of the prevailing degradation process demands considerable finances, which are not available at the moment, nevertheless this project may provide the opportunity to create best practices of mitigating any adverse effects of project intervention on the fragile ecosystems.

Somali Biodiversity hotspots (list of areas proposal for revival):

No_	Name	Type	Federal State	Longitude	Latitude
1	Anole-Farbidow	National Park	Lower Juba	41.900	0.870
2	Arbowerow	National Park	Lower Shabelle	44.090	1.500
3	Awdheegle-Gandershe	National Park	Lower Shabelle	44.800	1.970
4	Bacad	National Park	Middle Shabelle	45.150	4.860
5	Baraako-Madow & Shoonto	Forest Reserve	Lower Shabelle	43.155	2.018
6	Boja-Swamps	Wildlife reserve	Lower Shabelle	43.517	1.133
7	Borama-Gools	National Park	Lower Shabelle	43.639	3.035
8	Buq-Goorsar	National Park	Middle Shabelle	44.818	4.513
9	Bushbush	National Park	Lower Juba	41.698	-1.219
10	Daalo-Forest	National Park	Lower Juba	41.893	3.013
11	Eji-Oobaale	Wildlife reserve	Middle Shabelle	45.542	3.183
12	El Chebet Area	Wildlife reserve	Puntland, Nugal	48.871	8.801
13	El Hammure	Wildlife reserve	Mudug	48.893	7.221
14	Far Libaax	Wildlife reserve	Lower Shabelle	44.869	4.875
15	Far Waamo	Wildlife reserve	Lower Juba	42.578	-0.048
16	Gacan-Libaax	National Park	Togdheer	45.077	10.027
17	Galkacyo	Wildlife reserve	Mudug	47.431	6.769
18	Jaziira	National Park	Lower Juba	44.548	1.784
19	Jowhar-Warsheikh	National Park	Lower Shabelle	45.191	2.465
20	Harardhere-Awle Rungo	Wildlife reserve	Mudug	47.819	4.625
21	Harqan-Dalandoole	Wildlife reserve	Sanaag	47.047	9.559
23	Hobyo	Wildlife reserve	Mudug	48.526	5.347
24	Lack-Dhere	National Park	Lower Juba	41.122	0.859
25	Lack-Badane	National Park	Lower Juba	41.510	-1.305
26	Lasanood-Taleex	National Park	Las Anod Taleh	47.645	8.816

28	Ras Guba	National Park	Bari Puntland	50.674	10.089
29	Raas-Hafuun	National Park	Bari Puntland	50.777	10.418
30	Qurajo	Wildlife reserve	Lower Juba (Gedo)	41.913	3.958

Somalia - Proposed National Parks and Reserves (Draft)



4. Assessment of the project's impact on biodiversity:

In general the impact of the project interventions has the potential to create positive impact on the biodiversity (ecosystem goods and services). The components of the project has inbuilt potential to contribute towards the revival of the biodiversity hotspots, in particular component one of the project "restored landscapes are resilient and sustainably managed", can't be effective in achieving its goal, if biodiversity management/ecosystem restoration is overlooked. Nevertheless, this requires systematic and deliberate efforts (through mutual reinforcement) in the biodiversity framework under the environmental and social safeguards management framework. Component two of the project "Local livelihoods are resilient to climate change" will also need concrete ecosystem restoration activities to further reinforce, rather than mitigating, the resilience building measures. Component three provides an opportunity to look at the institutional strengthening elements aiming at ecosystem restoration and biodiversity revival efforts. The project in general (by design) has minimal impact on biodiversity/ecosystems, nevertheless the below mentioned framework aims at systemically create a win-win situation where the natural capital resilience to climate change is used as window of opportunity for biodiversity conservation/revival in the project area.

5. Project's biodiversity management planning framework

Component/ activity	Impact on biodiversity	Mitigation measures
Outcome 1. Restored landscapes are resilient and sustainably managed		
Output 1.1 Improved participatory landscape and natural resources management and governance are established at watershed and village levels		
<i>1.1.1 Develop climate-informed inclusive landscape management plans</i>	This integrated natural capital management approach is intrinsically beneficial to biodiversity, however systemic measures will be included in the approach that ensures the restoration of ecosystem goods and services on one hand and the ecosystem based adaptation to climate change on the other.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity baseline assessed during data collection process, thus related tools to be developed/tailored for each region of the project. • Elements of ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change will be included in the plan.
Output 1.2 Agricultural and Agro-pastoral Landscapes are restored and under sustainable management		
<i>1.2.1 Conduct landscape restoration through local landscape management committees and community-based associations</i>	Habitat restoration with focus on endemism as well as agriculture biodiversity will be mainstreamed in the process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community engagement and capacity plan will include habitat restoration with focus on enhanced ecosystem goods and services • Elements of ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change will be carried out in each landscape management.
Outcome 2 Local livelihoods are resilient to climate change.		
Output 2.1 Resilient water supply is secured and sustainably managed		
<i>2.1.1 Strengthen water management capacity at State and local level</i>	None	Wetlands management Training on how to ensure biodiversity conservation in relation to water management
<i>2.1.2 Increase access to water resources and climate</i>	Assess the prospective impact of the water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the prospective biodiversity changes due to irrigation infrastructure

<i>smart infrastructure</i>	<i>irrigation</i>	infrastructure on the biodiversity of the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to save the existing wetlands and particularly its ecosystem services included in the landscape planning; • training on ecosystem function of regulating water and reduction of disease risk through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature. • Water conservation measures will be included together with equitable distribution at head/tail level.
Output 2.2 Local communities practice locally-specific Climate Resilient Agriculture			
<i>2.2.1 Disseminate CRA practices to farmers</i>		Deliberate inclusion of sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches that contribute to both resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of the agri production on one hand while conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services on the other.	Awareness sessions tailored for conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.
<i>2.2.2 Build the capacity of MoA at Local, State and Federal level to support communities in the adoption of CRA practices</i>		None	Capacity building in the setting up of Gene & Seed Banks to ensure the arrest of genetic erosion in agriculture varieties
Output 2.3 Farmers derive additional income from climate resilient value chains			
<i>2.3.1 Improve access to climate resilient inputs for crop and livestock production</i>		None	Ensure to preserve the indigenous varieties
<i>2.3.2 Build the capacity of producer groups to develop sustainable climate-informed business plans</i>		None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # persons trained in biodiversity promoting business focusing on the priority landscapes • Elements of community based biodiversity enterprises incorporated in the business plans • Encouraging entrepreneurship in community based management towards sustained value added use of products and services stemming from biological resources; this will be attained through tripartite partnership

		between public & private sectors, and civil society.
<i>2.3.3 Increase MSME, cooperatives and farming group access to agricultural credit</i>	The facility may ignore the agriculture biodiversity on the face of higher productivity and income generation	A win-win approach has to be developed towards higher output while not compromising on agriculture biodiversity as well as damage to the ecosystem health. A compendium of best practices of MSME that has/can ensure both the higher return/income and biodiversity conservation Tailored training imparted to # of cooperatives in mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in the work of cooperatives.
<i>2.3.4 Increase all-season access to market for smallholder producers, cooperatives and farmer groups</i>	The infrastructure may trigger habitat fragmentation, or loss to high value ecosystem	Biodiversity impact assessment of the infrastructure carried out and adverse impacts articulated and communicated. Detailed mitigation plan developed and implemented within the project period. Training developed and imparted on how to avoid biodiversity loss as a result of project infrastructure.
Outcome 3 An improved institutional enabling environment for sustainable landscape management and climate resilient agriculture is in place at State and Federal Levels		
Output 3.1 NRM legal frameworks and implementation modalities are improved		
<i>3.1.1 Update legal and institutional frameworks for sustainable landscape management</i>	None but should be used as an opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess legal and institutional framework in relation to biodiversity Include deliberate measures on ecosystem restoration measures, in accordance with Somalia National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
<i>3.1.2 Strengthen policy dialogue and coordination between sectoral ministries at State levels</i>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of biodiversity stakeholders in the coordination forums
<i>3.1.3 Strengthen the capacity of MoECC to manage, monitor and govern natural resources and implement Ecosystem-based Adaptation</i>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote ecosystem services as a key solution for adaptation to climate change (include modules and manuals that can help access to finances as a win-win for biodiversity and climate change)
<i>Activity 3.1.4 Build capacity for the monitoring, assessment, analysis and early warning related to the</i>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

<i>impacts of climate on food security, climate.</i>		
<i>Activity 3.1.5 Build capacity of MoAI for climate informed water water management infrasructure planning</i>	Assess the prospective impact of the water infrastructure on the biodiversity of the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the prospective biodiversity changes due to irrigation infrastructure • Measures to save the existing wetlands and particularly its ecosystem services included in the irrigation master plan
Output 3.2 Increased access to climate information among last mile users		
<i>3.2.1 Collect, disseminate and share relevant climate and land data to support decision making at all levels</i>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make use of the biodiversity clearing house mechanism

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

A detailed analysis of potential negative impacts will be carried out within the elaboration of the project's ESMP, especially in areas where Protected areas and areas of key biodiversity value area identified. This is critical, as the specific implementation areas will be determined within project implementation, and, thus, attention must be paid to ensure the selection carefully considers biodiversity and ensures compliance with this planning framework and the ESMF in general. Screening will be conducted using FAO's environmental and social screening checklist, which will help identify sub activities that require mitigation measures.

Appendix 10: Indigenous Peoples Plan (Table of Content)

The GCF-FAO Project “Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ugbaad)” necessitates the development of an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) if it is anticipated to impact indigenous communities, as a result of the FPIC process. This plan must align with the FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards concerning Indigenous Peoples and be commensurate with the project’s complexity and potential effects on indigenous rights, lands, livelihoods, and cultural heritage.

With the active participation of affected communities, the IPP should encompass various key elements:

- A. Executive Summary: Briefly outlines essential facts, findings, and recommended actions.
- B. Project Description: Provides a general overview of the project, its area, and components likely to affect indigenous communities in Somalia.
- C. Indigenous Peoples Description: Details affected indigenous groups, their locations, resources, and vulnerable subgroups within them.
- D. Rights and Legal Framework: Covers indigenous rights and relevant legal frameworks, including analyzes of land and resource ownership issues.
- E. Social and Environmental Assessment: Summarizes findings and mitigation measures from impact studies, with a focus on Indigenous Peoples' involvement.
- F. Participation and Consent Processes: Highlights consultation and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes, ensuring indigenous support.
- G. Equitable Benefits: Identifies measures for culturally appropriate benefit-sharing, determined through consultation and consent.
- H. Gender Assessment and Action Plan.
- I. Capacity Support: Describes measures to enhance indigenous organizations' capabilities.
- J. Grievance Redress: Outlines procedures for addressing grievances, considering indigenous customary laws.
- K. Monitoring and Evaluation: Details mechanisms for transparent monitoring, evaluation, and periodic IPP revision in consultation with Indigenous Peoples.
- L. Institutional Arrangements: Defines responsibilities and oversight mechanisms, including roles for impartial entities.
- M. Budget and Financing: Presents a costed plan sufficient for IPP implementation.

It is crucial that project activities potentially affecting Indigenous Peoples are not carried out until corresponding IPP measures are implemented. If project components are fully defined later, an IPPF will guide the screening, assessment, and development of specific IPP (s), focusing on potential adverse social and environmental impacts.

Appendix 8: Labour Management Plan (indicative outline)

1. Introduction

1.1 This Labour Management Procedure (LMP) has been prepared to ensure project compliance with FAO's commitment to support decent work for sustainable food and agriculture, as described via FAO's Environmental and Social Standard on Decent Work (ESS7) of FESM.

In addition to the requirements established by ESS7 of FESM, it should reflect the principles expressed by way of the national legislation and regulations of Somalia, as well as applicable international guidelines. The purpose of this LMP is **to facilitate the planning and implementation of the labour related safeguards requirements for the Project, and to mitigate adverse impacts related to decent work and labour practices.**

This section should present a brief description (approximately half a page) of the project, and include: project objectives, expected outcomes, expected key results by geographical area, timeline, implementation arrangements, and the key risks and potential impacts that triggered ESS7 (FAO's Environmental and Social Standard).

The key risks associated to agricultural projects are, usually, related to poor working conditions, forced labour, child labour, occupational health and safety (OHS), and influx of project workers. During the completion of the risk screening checklist, other potential impacts could be identified. The LMP should be developed based on such risks and potential impacts.

2. Labour Use Overview

2.1 This section will provide an overview of the labour use of the project. It considers the different types of labour that will be required during project implementation.

Types of labour are: direct workers (employed or engaged directly by FAO or implementing partners), contracted workers (employed or engaged by third parties), and primary supply workers (employed or engaged by primary suppliers). Full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, and migrant workers are types of employment considered under these different types.

When describing the workers' profile (type), indicate:

Number of workers by type (as described above).

Timing (when workers will be engaged in the project. This could also be indicated linking to the activities planned and/or project phases)

Contract type (type of employment)

[This information may be presented in table format].

2.2 In case of presence of workers accommodations, this section will include a description of accommodation arrangements and indicate its location in relation to the project implementation area and local communities, number of workers living in the accommodation, duration, etc.

3. Description of Key Potential Risks and Mitigation Measures

This section describes the **potential risks** that triggered the application of ESS7 of FESM, **and respective mitigation measures**. These could be risks related to security, forced labour, child labour, gender-based violence and sexual harassment, OHS (occupational health and safety) related to spread of communicable disease (such as COVID-19 or other alike situation), natural disaster related risk etc.

The required information may be presented in table format (example below), organized by project activity, type of risk/impact, parties affected, and mitigation measures. For mitigation measures, indicate estimate budget (if available), responsible implementing party, and implementation timeline. If available, additional information such as technical expertise/support required could also be presented.

Project activity	Key risks/impacts	Type of worker affected ⁴⁰	Mitigation measures	Implementation of mitigation measures			Monitoring		
				Budget	Responsible party	Timeline	Budget (if not allocated under implementation)	Responsible party	Timeline/frequency

3.1 For primary supply workers, indicate how the project will ensure the application of ESS4 and/or ESS5 of FESM requirements and which instruments will be in place to ensure suppliers' application of such requirements (this may include contractual clauses, for example). Also describe how the application will be monitored.

4. Legal Framework

4.1 This section briefly presents the key aspects of national and international labour regulations targeted to the risks identified in section 3. The legal framework should be relevant to the project description and types of employment **applicable to the project**.

The requirements or restrictions applicable under the relevant labour laws and regulations are often related to women's employment and gender discrimination (including GBV), minors and child labour (provide a description of what is considered working age by the host government), migrant workforce, type of employment (including, for example working hours and overtime, wages and deductions, dismissal, and freedom of organization), occupational health and safety (OHS), etc.

The legal framework may be presented in table format, organized by type of legal requirement (law) and/or FAO ESS4 and/or ESS5 of FESM requirements.

5. Workplace Grievance Management

The grievance mechanism for labour related risks may utilize existing grievance mechanisms of the project (recommended), provided that they are properly designed and implemented, address concerns promptly, and are readily accessible to and understandable by project related workforce. Existing grievance mechanisms may be supplemented as needed with project-specific arrangements. Please refer to the project GRM guidance and template for structure, functioning and access in the [Stakeholder Engagement Guidance Note](#).

⁴⁰ Optional; could also be included in the description of risks/impacts

Note that confidentiality in the grievance redress mechanism is required to be allowed for, especially for cases of gender-based violence and more generally to reduce the risk of reprisal.

Please describe the functioning, accessibility of the project's GRM; and in particular how confidentiality and freedom from fear of reprisals will be assured for complainants.

6. Monitoring and Implementation

6.1 This section describes the responsibilities related to implementation of labour management good practice (as characterized by the ESS4 and ESS5 of FESM and corresponding GNs) in the context of this project, specify the implementation partners and their respective roles; as well as the monitoring and enforcement of LMP requirements. Be sure to also take into account any budgetary implications (in case this is not indicated in the section 3).

[This information may be presented in table format. It can be added to the table provided in section 3, or presented separately here.]

6.2 Engagement and management of project workers, contractors/sub-contractors (including on labour management requirements from FAO), OHS etc. as relevant for the specific project.

6.3 Training of workers: This section will include information related to the training of workers.

[Other useful references]

www.ifc.org/ehsguidelines

https://www.ilo.org/safework/info/standards-and-instruments/codes/WCMS_161135/lang--en/index.htm

Appendix 9: Occupational Health and Safety Plan (indicative Table of Contents)

1. Introduction
2. Objectives
3. Scope of Environmental, Social, Health and Safety Manual
4. OHS Manual Governing Procedure
5. Information Dissemination and Grievance Handling
6. Roles and Responsibilities
 - 6.1. Project Proponent (PIU/PMU) Role
 - 6.2. Consultancy Firm Construction Manager (Project Manager) and Environmental and Social Specialist
 - 6.3. Contractor Obligation
 - 6.4. Project OHS Officer
 - 6.5. Subcontractors
 - 6.6. Workers
7. Personal conduct while on duty
8. Monitoring
 - 8.1. Accidents and Diseases Monitoring
9. OHS Reporting
10. Training
 - 10.1. Certification Requirements
11. Hazards
 - 11.1. Physical Hazards
 - 11.2. Rotating and Machine Movement
 - 11.3. Noise
 - 11.4. Electrical
 - 11.5. Eye Hazard
 - 11.6. Vehicle Driving and Site Traffic
 - 11.7. Chemical Hazards
 - 11.8. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)
 - 11.9. Slipping and Fall from Height
12. COVID 19 Related Precautions
13. Disposal of Waste Materials
14. Disposal of Industrial Materials
15. Fire Protection
16. Storage of Material and Equipment Spare parts
17. General Safety Standards

18. Safety Signage
19. Personal Protective Equipment and Clothing
20. General Directions for First Aid

Annex 1: Contents of the Site-specific Occupational Health and Safety Plan

Annex 2: Code of Conduct

Annex 3 COVID-19 General Safety Instructions

Annex 4: Workers Report of Injury Form

Annex 5: Safety Inspection Checklist

Appendix 10: Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP)

A SWMP can cover a range of issues, including:

- who is responsible for the management of the resource;
- elimination of excess waste, e.g over ordering of products;
- the type of waste produced by the project;
- whether the waste is recycled, reused or reduced;
- the contractors you select for managing your waste; and
- how you will measure the quantity of waste you produce.

The typical structure for a SWMP, is as follows:

1. INTRODUCTION
2. LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND
3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
4. SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
 - 1.1 Minimising Waste
 - 1.2 Identifying Waste
 - 1.3 Storing Waste
 - 1.4 Identifying Recycling and Disposal Options
 - 1.5 Characterising Waste for Landfill
 - 1.6 Transferring Waste
 - 1.7 Disposing Waste off-site
 - 1.8 Re-using Waste on Site

Appendix 11: Example of Terms of References for Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist

I. General Objectives of the Assignment

The following are terms of reference for the preparation and monitoring of safeguards instruments (risk mitigation plans) for the GCF-FAO Project “Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ugbaad)”. As per the Project risk category and guidance received by the ESM Unit, the instruments to be prepared are: the project Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), implementation safeguards documents, an Indigenous Peoples Plan, etc. These will inform FAO’s approach to environmental and social management issues to be adopted under the Project (which is described above).

The main objective of this assignment is to develop, implement and monitor the above-mentioned risk mitigation plans. The assignment includes the collection and analysis of primary and secondary data, information and materials. This shall provide clear, comprehensive and practical guidance to the FAO on integrating an environmental/social due diligence process into the project implementation.

After the completion of the assignment, FAO should be knowledgeable on the key due diligence issues to be expected for the project, and have the analytical capabilities and capacity to manage them in line with international good practice.

II. Specific Tasks

The consultant is encouraged to use [FAO's templates](#) for the risk management plans. In any case, the instruments should cover the scope of the FAO template. The consultant should contact ESM-unit@fao.org for further guidance on how to apply FAO’s Environmental and Social Management Guideline.

The objective of the preparation of an comprehensive project ESMP and implementation safeguards documents is to ensure sufficient guidance is provided to FAO in the selection, preparation and implementation of project’s activities in order to avoid or minimize environmental and social risks and negative impacts and enhance the environmental and social performance. This will be accomplished through the development and application of proper selection criteria for activities, planning that takes into account environmental and social criteria, sound implementation and monitoring, and disclosure, consultation and feedback. To achieve this objective and with the support of FAO the consultant/s will carry out the following tasks through research, interviews, field visits and teleworking:

- Based on a detailed description of the project, develop and provide guidance on environmental and social criteria to be used during the identification and selection of priority activities. Also develop a list of activities and potential activities not recommendable for support, due to their poor environmental or social performance.
- Compile a summary of key domestic legislative, regulatory and administrative regimes in each of the project countries, within which the project will operate, with a focus on requirements that will apply to the planning, approval and implementation of activities; research and summarize regional agreements and treaties that are relevant to project planning and implementation, as well as environmental management and due diligence.
- Establish a clear understanding of the institutional requirements, roles and responsibilities for adopting and implementing the ESMP and implementation safeguards documents. Importantly, this should include a thorough review of the authority and capability of institutions at different levels

(e.g. local, district, governorate and national) and their capacity to manage and monitor ESMP implementation.

- Identify all relevant potential environmental risks and social concerns that may arise as a result of the project;
- Propose realistic and effective arrangements for FAO to develop the capacity to manage environmental and social due diligence processes and activities in the project; propose reporting lines, review and approval functions; identify the required resources and technical assistance measures to establish and maintain capacity for the project duration and beyond; develop a process (incl. timeline, budget, organizational requirements, required trainer profiles and expertise) for building and enhancing the capacity of the institutions responsible for implementing the ESMP.
- Define the requirements for technical assistance to FAO, civil society organizations (CSO), service providers and public sector institutions to implement, manage, supervise, observe or support the implementation of the ESMP.

Appendix 12: Construction Management Plan (Simplified Environmental and Social Management Plan for construction and renovation activities under the project)

Introduction

FAO will be implementing the project infrastructure activities in all the project regions, nevertheless more intensively in the Shebelle area. All sites have been screened for potential environmental and social risks and impacts, per the FAO Environmental and Social Management Frameworks (ESMF) and have all been categorized as Category B (moderate). All works will comply with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The details of the activities are follows:

Rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure, small-scale water storage reservoirs/ ponds, improved water management: 2.1.2 Increase access to water resources and climate-smart irrigation infrastructure This activity includes tangible investments in the rehabilitation and re-operationalization of critical water infrastructure in the targeted regions. This includes restoration of the Sabun barrage and supply canal in Jowhar (under cofinancing) which allows for the irrigation of 50,000 ha, as well as the rehabilitation and upgrade of secondary and tertiary canals in the other districts. This includes restore Sabun Barrage and Supply canal in Jowhar, upgrade secondary and tertiary canals to resilience standards added with water-saving technologies. Though the GCF-FAO CRA project is mainly focusing on the Sabun barrage and the subsidiary canal, nevertheless, to understand the cumulative impact of the infrastructure under projects such as JOSP, TRANSFER, etc. the wider river system (Fig 1) must be kept in view. The aspect of cumulative impact is therefore included in this ESMP.

2.3.4 Increase all-season access (150 km of rural roads) to market (building 10 intermediary markets) for smallholder producers, cooperatives and farmer groups. The project will support the rehabilitation of market infrastructures, including rural roads, cattle corridors to ensure that access is uninterrupted even during climate extremes. Furthermore, the project also creates new market poles to promote local exchanges and increase economic activity among local users.

Accumulatively these construction/renovation/rehabilitation activities trigger ESS1(1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.9), ESS2 (2.1, 2.2, 2.4.1, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8), ESS3 (3.1 and 3.2), ESS4 (4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4), ESS5 (5.1, 5.3 and 5.7), ESS6 (6.1) and ESS8 (8.1, 8.2 and 8.3) from low risk to moderate risk levels. Keeping in view the situation a concerted plan is needed that will be implemented, reviewed and monitored over the period of the project. This ESMP is within the provided budget for all the planned activities, and FAO will implement all risk mitigation measures as necessary. The ESMP attempts to cover typical core mitigation approaches to community-based cash-for-work interventions and offers practical handling guidance to FAO project staff and supervising engineers. FAO staffers will be accountable for applying the ESMP's provisions during the execution of the works.

Fig 1: Layout of Sabun barrage and the wider river system:

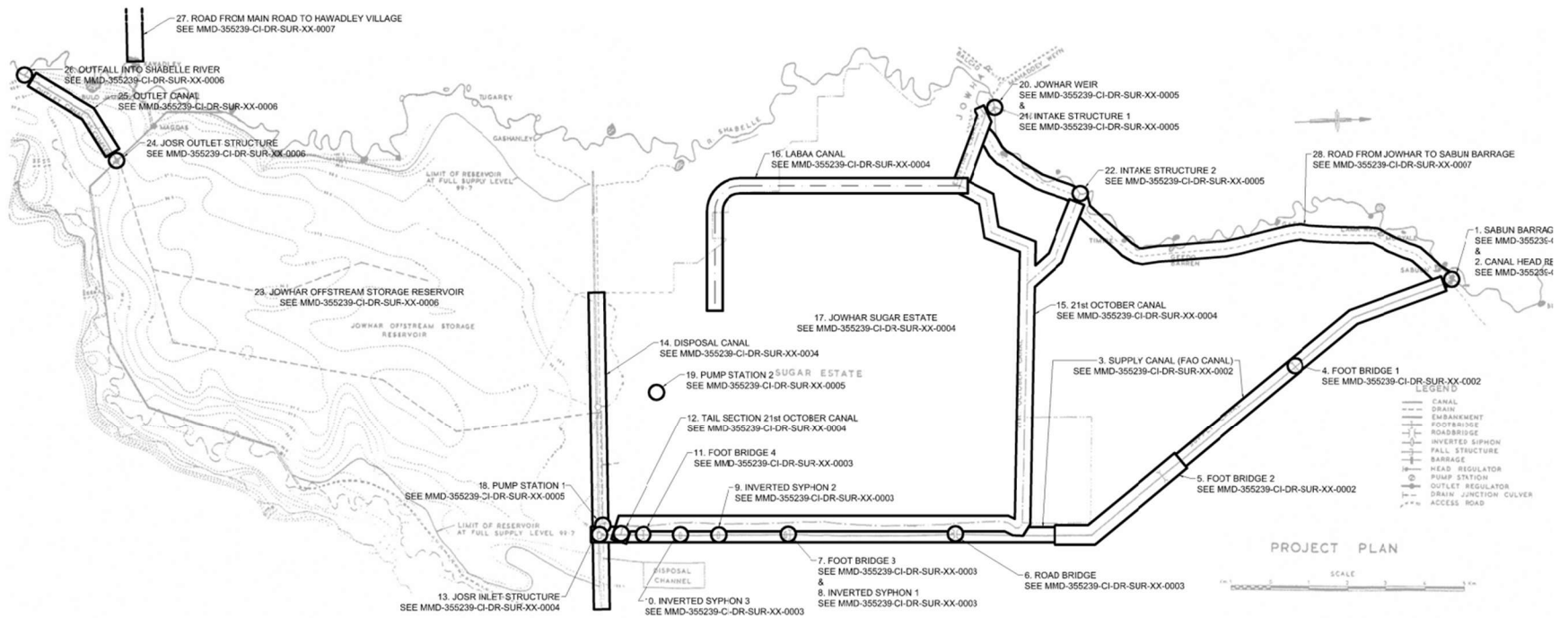


Table 1: Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan

Associated Project Activity	E&S Risks and Impact	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility for implementation	Timing for mitigation	Monitoring Indicators	Mitigation Budget	Monitoring Responsibility	Monitoring Frequency
Sabun barrage and canal work, in the broader context (including complementarity with other projects)	Cumulative impact on the wider river system (fig 1)	undertake hydrological study, combining desk analysis and limited field visits. The desk analysis will be done using GIS tools, and taking advantage of the recently acquired high resolution elevation data covering most of the country. Data from the national hydromet network operated by SWALIM and the Ministry of Agriculture, which currently has close to 150 stations will be used for the analysis. From the desk analysis, limited field visits for verification / validation will be undertaken. The number of verification points and data to be collected will be determined by the outcome of the desk analysis.	FAO SWALIM	During the project inception period	Hydrological study considering the CRA project, JOSP, TRANSFER, etc.	TBD	FAO	Annual
Excavation of the canal	Dust pollution	Watering during the excavation	Contractor	During the excavation	Controlling of dust around the excavation site	1,500.00 USD	FAO	Daily
Management of workforce	Impact on health of workers and Community H&S	Provision of personnel protection equipment for workers	Contractor	During construction period	Number and type of PPE provided (gloves, hard helmet, safety shoes etc.)	2,500.00 USD	FAO	Monthly

		Initial orientation for work force on OHS		Starting of the work	Number of safety training	1,000.00 USD	FAO	At the start of the project activities
		Keeping first Aid Kits on the construction site		During construction period	Availability of kits on the site	500.00 USD	FAO	Monthly
Excavated soil from the canal	Solid Waste problem	Reuse the excavated soil to the canals embankments	Contractor	During excavation of the canal	Quantity excavated from the canal	Part of contractor's costs	FAO	Monthly check
Transporting of materials (access roads), excavation of the canal, and using of heavy machineries	Significant generation of dust and noise, soil erosion, and air pollution	Site will be sprinkled with water prior to excavation to reduce dust generation.	Contractor	During execution of the canal activities	Number of Sprinkling of the site	Part of contractor's costs, but route maintenance is about 5000.00 USD	FAO	Daily checking
		Use of Tarpaulins/plastic sheets to cover vehicles during haulage of sand and stones			Covering of the vehicles once they are carrying materials			
		Appropriate PPE will be provided for personnel (compulsory)			No. of PPE available on the sites and how the labor uses			
		Choose an appropriate & suitable operation/construction time to minimize the dust and noise pollution,			Working hours			
		Provision of Earplugs to workers assigned on heavy machinery			Uses of the earplugs			
		Routine maintenance, regular site inspection, and response to the faster rate of physical deterioration.			Inspection of the route maintenance			
		For the air pollution, emissions will be low and not have a			N/A			

		noticeable effect on air quality.						
Site clearing and excavation	Disturb fauna and flora	Minimize tree cutting only marked trees have to be cut	Contractor	During site clearance and canal excavation	Checking marked area for cutting trees	Part of contractor's costs	FAO	daily
		Orient workers on importance of environmental protection and the need to avoid unnecessary felling of trees						
		Prepare Awareness raising program for workers on relevant national laws and regulations regarding illegal activities including logging, hunting, and etc.						
		The contractor should care the trees and access road near the canal						
Excavation of the canal	Limiting access or passing way for livestock and community members	Construct canal crossing culverts in appropriate places where many herds and people have been using	Contractor, but culverts should be in the BoQ and design	During construction	Number of crossing culverts constructed	Part of contractor's costs	FAO	Weekly
Presence of vehicles and equipment in villages, use of people's land for access to the construction	Traffic and access disrupted during construction; Traffic safety affected	Installing signs and other appropriate safety features on the site	Contractor	During construction	Signage and marks of the work areas	1,000.00 USD	FAO	Weekly
		The access to the villages along the project canal is always to maintain.				2,000.00 USD		

site, traffic and safety issues		Provincial Works and village officials will be consulted if access to a village has to be disrupted for any time and temporary access arrangements made.			Engagement of the village and provincial officials	Part of contractor's costs		
		Construction vehicles will use local access roads or negotiate access with landowners, to obtain access to material extraction sites.			Engagement of land owners and returns to the original condition after completion of the work	Part of contractor's costs		
		Provision of safe access across the works site to people whose villages and access are temporarily affected during canal activities			Temporary access roads	5,000.00 USD		
Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	Weak Community consultation	Meaningful consultation with community will be undertaken	CPIU, MoAI and contractor	Before starting of the activities	Meeting minutes including list of community members attended, signature and cell phone numbers	N/A		Weekly
Grievances	Disturbances relating to affecting villages	Establish fully functional project based GRM to address all complains associated with project activity	MoAI CPIU/FAO	During construction	Number of grievances received and properly adressed	N/A	CPIU/FAO	Daily

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

Appendix 13: Summary of FAO's Conflict Sensitive Programming Approach

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) utilizes conflict-sensitive programming to ensure that its interventions in fragile and conflict-affected contexts do not exacerbate conflicts but instead contribute to sustainable peace. This approach is grounded in the Corporate Framework to Support Sustainable Peace, approved in 2018 as part of the Agenda 2030 initiatives. The framework emphasizes the importance of understanding the local context and conflict dynamics to inform programming decisions ([Open Knowledge FAO](#)).

Key Elements of Conflict-Sensitive Programming:

1. **Understanding Local Contexts:** Conflict-sensitive programming begins with a thorough analysis of the local context, including identifying the root causes and dynamics of conflict. This analysis is crucial for designing interventions that are responsive to the specific needs and challenges of the area. FAO's Guide to Context Analysis serves as a practical tool for staff to document and institutionalize local knowledge, ensuring that interventions are well-informed and context-specific.
2. **Do No Harm Principle:** A fundamental principle of FAO's conflict-sensitive programming is to "Do No Harm." This means ensuring that interventions do not unintentionally exacerbate existing conflicts or create new tensions. By understanding the local dynamics, FAO aims to design programs that avoid negative impacts and support peaceful coexistence and resilience.
3. **Programme Clinic Approach:** The Programme Clinic is a structured participatory process designed to integrate conflict-sensitive strategies into FAO interventions. This approach involves detailed facilitation guides for both facilitators and participants, empowering FAO staff to conduct conflict-sensitive analysis and incorporate these insights into program design and implementation. This methodology not only helps in designing better programs but also builds the capacity of staff in conflict-sensitive thinking.
4. **Supporting Resilient Livelihoods:** In conflict-affected areas, enhancing food security and resilient agricultural livelihoods is a priority. FAO's interventions aim to support both displaced populations and host communities by protecting and rebuilding livelihoods, fostering inclusion, and promoting social cohesion. These efforts help address both the symptoms and root causes of conflict, contributing to longer-term peace and stability.
5. **Integration Across Sectors:** Conflict-sensitive programming is integrated across various sectors within FAO, including natural resource management, food security, and rural development. This holistic approach ensures that all aspects of FAO's work contribute to sustaining peace and addressing the interconnected challenges of conflict, food insecurity, and poverty.

By adopting these strategies, FAO aims to not only mitigate the adverse effects of conflict on food security and livelihoods but also to leverage its programming to foster peace and resilience in vulnerable communities. This comprehensive approach is essential for achieving sustainable development and long-term stability in conflict-affected regions.

Appendix 14: Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (indicative outline)

The project will develop an Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan that commensurate with the risks of the rehabilitation of the Sabuun barrage facility and that includes the following basic elements:

- a. Administration (policy, purpose, distribution, definitions, etc.);
- b. Organization of emergency areas (command centers, medical stations, etc.);
- c. Roles and responsibilities;
- d. Communication systems covering emergency response procedures, emergency resources, training and updating;
- e. Checklists (role and action list and equipment checklist); and
- f. Business Continuity and Contingency

The plan will also include the adoption of best transport safety practices with the goal of preventing traffic accidents and minimizing injuries suffered by project personnel and the public.

Measures will include emphasizing safety aspects among drivers, improving driving skills and requiring licensing of drivers; adopting limits for trip duration and arranging driver rosters to avoid overtiredness. Avoiding dangerous routes and times of day to reduce the risk of accidents. Use of speed control devices (governors) on trucks, and remote monitoring of driver actions. Regular maintenance of vehicles and use of manufacturer approved parts to minimize potentially serious accidents caused by equipment malfunction or premature failure. Minimizing pedestrian interaction with construction vehicles. Collaboration with local communities and responsible authorities to improve signage, visibility and overall safety of roads, particularly along stretches located near schools or other locations where children may be present. Collaborating with local communities on education about traffic and pedestrian safety (e.g. school education campaigns).