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This project is funded by the Belgian Government

PROJECT DOCUMENT

1. PROJECT SUMMARY TABLE

Country	Mali
Project Title	Climate, peace, and security in Koulikoro Region
Implementing organisation	UNDP (lead), UNCDF
Geographic zone	Region of Koulikoro (cercles of Koulikoro, Kolokani and Banamba)
Project duration in months & Starting and End date	1 December 2023 to 31 November 2026 (3 years)
Contribution to Country Program Framework	UNDP CPD (2020- 2024) component 3 (Environmental sustainability and resilience to climate change), UNCDF LoCAL Mali, Mali UNSDCF (2020- 2024) result 2 (inclusive and resilient growth and environmental sustainability).
Priority areas according to DAC CODES (OECD)	140, 152, 230, 310, 410, 430, 740
RIO-Markers applicable	Mitigation (M), Adaptation (A) 1 (significant objective) 2 (principal objective) 140 Water and sanitation M1, A2 14015 Water resource conservation M1, A2 150 Government and civil society M1, A2 232 Energy generation, renewable resources M1, A2 311 Agriculture M1, A2 312 Forestry M1, A2 Biosphere protection – 41020 M1, A2 Biodiversity – 41030 M1, A2 43040 Rural development M0, A1 74010 Disaster prevention & preparedness M0, A1
SDG Goals	5, 7, 13, 15, 16, 17
Project Gender Marker Score	2 (significant objective)

Project Risk Marker score	1 (medium risk)
Total Budget	EUR 4 million
Summary	The project aims to ensure the long-term sustainability of vulnerable productive landscapes and ecosystems in Mali's Koulikoro Region amid climate changes and reverse deforestation and land degradation while building community resilience and contributing to conflict prevention. It will be doing so by i) reinforcing public partnerships and leverage investments in climate change adaption and sustainable management of natural resources, ii) supporting peaceful, sustainable, and inclusive governance of land, forests, and water, and ii) strengthening community and household-level resilience, notably for women and youth, amid climate change. The project builds on and scales up UNDP's existing climate, peace and security portfolio, UNCDF's Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility and complements Enabel's PTCS 2022-2026.

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3. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACCAF	Assessing Climate Change Adaptation Framework
ADR	Regional Development Agency
AEDD	Environmental and Sustainable Development Agency
ANGMV	National Agency for the Great Green Wall
ANICT	National Investment Agency for Local Communities
ANR	Assisted Natural Regeneration
APA	Annual performance assessments
APSAN	Enhancing crop productivity and climate resilience for Food and Nutrition Security in Mali
CAFO	Women's associations and NGOs in Mali
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CILLS	Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CLE	Local Water Management Committee
CoFo	Land tenure Commissions
CREDD	Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development
CSM	Climate Security Mechanism
COP	Conference of Parties
DNAT	National Directorate of Spatial Planning
DRA	Reginal Directorate of Agriculture
DREF	Regional Directorate of Water and Forests
DRH	Regional Directorate of Hydraulics
DRP	Regional Fisheries Directorate
DRPIA	Regional Department of Animal Production and Industries
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FNACT	National Support Fund for Local Communities
FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GGW	Great Green Wall
GIZ	German Association for International Cooperation
ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IER	Institute of Rural Economy
IPR/IFRA	Rural polytechnic institute for training and applied research
IRRIGAR III	Strengthening resilience through irrigation and appropriate resource management initiatives
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
KfW	German Financial Cooperation
LoCAL	Local Climate Adaptive Living
MEADD	Ministry of the Environment, Sanitation, and Sustainable Development
MERIT	Multi-Energy for Resilience and Integrated Land Management Project
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NTFP	Non-timber forest products
OECD DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - Development Assistance Committee

ONAFA	National Observatory of Agricultural Land
PASSIP	Support program for the local irrigation sub-sector
PBCRG	Performance Based Climate Resilience Grants
PDSEC	Economic, social, and cultural development plans
PNA	National Adaptation Plan
PTCS	Climate Sahel Thematic Portfolio
SES	Social and Environmental Standards
SLWM	Sustainable Land and Water Management
SP-LOA	Permanent Secretariat of the Agricultural Orientation Law
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UN-CCESD	United Nations' Regional Working Group on Climate Change, Environment, Security and Development
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNOWAS	United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel
UNSDCF	United Nations United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
WFP	World Food Programme

4. JUSTIFICATION

Context

In Mali, a combination of natural and anthropogenic pressures has resulted in an intense process of land degradation, deforestation, and desertification, with loss of biodiversity and soil fertility, impacting productivity and livelihoods of populations. The impact of climate change, notably rainfall deficits with great inter-annual variability, are already very real and has manifested itself over the past decade. Indeed, climate change exacerbates dust storms, downstream flooding, and soil erosion. Further, overexploitation of forest formations in Mali, mainly for agriculture and grazing is estimated to have resulted in the loss 15% of forest cover in the past 20 years and turned forest areas into sandy, grassy dune, and dead wood areas[1]. The most productive lands are subject to poor agricultural practices (tillage, excessive use of fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides), which has an adverse effect on soils and affects productivity, public health, and contribute to environmental degradation. Evidence is already seen of how climate change and increased climate variability in addition to human factors contribute to the degradation of ecosystems on which societies depend for food and water security. As anthropogenic and climate impacts shrink the productive natural resource base, conflicts over land and water intensify between different user groups, notably farmers and herders amid an insufficient resource and benefit sharing regime.

Mali's economy is dominated by the agricultural sector which contributes to 36.7% of the gross domestic product (GDP) and employs 83% of the population[2], of which 49% are women. Animal husbandry is practiced by 63% of households, with systems being both sedentary and transhumant[3]. Forestry also plays an important role in socio-economic activities in Mali, contributing 4.9% of the country's GDP, although forests now cover only 1.85% of the total land area[4].

Mali ranks 170 among 182 countries in the ND-GAIN climate adaption index (2020), meaning that the country is extremely vulnerable to climate changes, yet with little capacity and readiness for climate adaption. Significant barriers exist to adaptation and natural resource restoration in Mali, besides being a lower income country (USD 874/capita in 2021) with very limited internal resources available for investments in climate change adaptation and environmental protection. Notably, the institutional instability, lack of control with corruption, and low level of education constitute important barriers. The protracted conflict and political instability in Mali also reduce the capacity and resources of central and local authorities to prevent and respond to disasters and to conceive and implement climate change adaptation and restoration measures. The insufficient investments and action at national level trickles down to local populations that depend directly on natural resources, thus reducing their contributions to environmental conservation and adaption.

Problem analysis

Forests are increasingly subject to degradation, mainly due to the aridity of the climate, successive droughts and especially to agricultural clearing, exploitation of firewood, overgrazing, bush fires, etc., and around 100,000 hectares are estimated to disappear each year. Further, land degradation negatively affects agricultural production and water availability for local populations and livestock. This is impeding the ability of ecosystems to provide goods and services essential for livelihoods, food security, human health, and overall

[1] Global Forest Watch (2022). Mali. https://www.globalforestwatch.org/dashboards/country/MLI
[2] Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research - PIK (2020): Climate Risk Profile: Mali.
[3] FAO (May 2021): *Moyens d'existence agricoles et sécurité alimentaire dans le cadre de la covid-19*.
[4] Climate Links (2020): https://www.climatelinks.org/countries/mali

economic development, adversely affecting climate resilience of local communities, with a particularly adverse impact on women, youth, and vulnerable groups. The fast growth of the population, estimated at 3.1%/year in 2023, which means that the population will double in 20 years, results in increasing demand for resources, which further increase pressures on natural resources. This is reflected in the expansion of farmlands and pastures across virgin lands and the use of unsustainable agricultural practices and overgrazing, which lead to the loss soil productivity and degradation. In Mali, land degradation is already affecting over 2 million people and reports estimate that land degradation and misuse of natural resources amounts to more than 30% of the GDP. Estimates further suggest a return of 5:1 on investment in actions to fight land degradation in Mali[5].

Mali's mean annual temperatures are projected to increase by 1.2 to 3.6°C by the 2060s, depending on the scenario. Similarly, projections foresee an increase in frequency and intensity of extreme events, and long dry spells during the rainy season could affect the natural water supply sources, with water availability projected to decrease overall by 77% by 2080[6]. Such a trajectory will have significant adverse impacts on local communities, livelihoods, and ecosystems unless adaption measures are taken. Notably, farming systems in Mali are highly vulnerable to climate change, due to reliance on rain-fed agriculture (90%), poor water resource management, drought and disasters, and low household incomes.

Despite a comprehensive set of national policies, laws, and strategies for achieving its national and international environmental commitments multiple barriers exist to scale up restoration and climate change adaptation efforts in Mali. In addition to insufficient public investments, as described above, this includes inconsistent and ineffective natural resource management at community level, which fail to integrate conflict prevention, and insufficient support for engaging in alternative and climate-resilient livelihoods. Local authorities, which are in a unique position to identify the climate change adaptation responses that best meet local needs and undertake small- to medium-sized adaptation investments and ensure their sustainability, frequently lack the technical and financial resources to do so. Overall, there is a need to strengthen local governance of natural resources in a manner which enhances climate resilience and allows for social inclusion and gender-equality. This will require technical training and support to local authorities, extension services, and ultimately to households, in reversing deforestation and adapt farming practices to climate change, restore land productivity, and increase the adoption of sustainable land and water management techniques by building on traditional knowledge and local preferences.

Finally, while an important number of actors are already investing in and implementing climate action programmes across Mali, interventions are often not well coordinated and miss out on potential synergies. In order to provide solutions that address the magnitude of challenges, there is a need to strengthen coherence and complementarities across actors, development and peace communities and promote area-based approaches.

Lessons learned from earlier phases, relevant projects

Over the past 20 years, several risk management and climate change adaptation projects have been implemented in Mali by the UNDP, UNCDF, the Malian Government, and other actors to strengthen the resilience of populations. A number of important lessons have been drawn and good practices observed, notably:

[5] Republic of Mali (2020): Programme de définition des cibles nationales de la Neutralité de dégradation des Terres.
[6] World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal (latest CMIP6 data).

- Involvement of public entities (sectoral ministries and agencies, local authorities, meteorological services, regional and local technical services, and research institutions) in intervention design, planning, and execution.
- The establishment of formal collaboration protocols with the state technical services is required for their full involvement in planning and implementation of activities.
- Despite the comprehensive national policies, there is an inadequacy with respect to local realities, difficulty of mastering the texts and overlapping mandates, insufficient of human and financial resources, and an incomplete decentralization process limits accountability.
- Considering *Plans de développement économique, social et culturel* (PDSEC) are the most relevant entry point to ensure sustainability of interventions at community-level, multiple actors engage with communes, and it is critical to ensure coordination.
- Insufficient allocation of resources, with 1.13% of the national budget for environmental protection. Upstream policies are accompanied by inadequate allocation of resources for field level interventions.
- Participatory and inclusive approaches in project-design and the implementation empower populations and offer them a decisive voice in targeting the investments according to their development needs.
- Gender-sensitive approaches in activity design and implementation allow for greater impact as women are more adversely and directly affected by climate change and natural and man-made shocks.
- Overall, a very high demand for water mobilization and collection infrastructure is observed and largely unmet.

In Mali, LoCAL is contributing to mitigating the risks of intercommunal conflicts over natural resources and supporting community based participatory planning of locally led investments that take climate change and environmental risks into account. Lessons learned since 2019 are the following:

- The communes demonstrated strong civic engagement and a responsive attitude. All key stakeholders— including the mostly female beneficiaries—are actively engaged in project identification and implementation.
- Communes remain highly dependent on technical support and assistance from the state and service providers and on external funding.
- Sustainability relies on several factors including follow-up and coordination between LoCAL and its national counterpart; technical and operational support from LoCAL at the regional and central levels; clear allocation of resources to the communes to address and implement climate adaptation activities and allowing for modification; strong ownership by commune councils and beneficiaries; and positive synergy between the actors.
- Other positive developments include a strengthened level of technical support provided by the decentralized state services and their related structures; improved capacities of local service providers and contractors; political support from the government and alignment of the mechanism to ongoing reforms and the increasing level of transfer of capacities and resources from the central to the decentralized governments; and strengthening of audits and inspections of public funds.

The Great Green Wall (GGW) 2022 review[7] also identified a number of good practices and promising approaches (ecological or socio-economic) from programmes running from 2012 that can be replicated or scaled-up:

[7] ANGMV and UNEP (2022) : Situation de base dans l'espace de la Grande Muraille Verte au Mali

- Agro-ecological solutions increase the vegetation cover and productivity of the land and ensure storage of CO_2. Policies to reduce deforestation, land-clearing, and bush fires need to be accompanied by action the operational level through the restoration of pastures and degraded forests and measures reversing erosion (water and wind) and through water and soil conservation measures.
- Access to clean energy sources (solar, wind, hydraulic) reduce the use of fossil energies. Notably, adoption of improved banco stoves allows women to exert less pressure on forest formations and holds an important potential.
- Integrated water resources management and the establishment of consultation frameworks that bring together all users of water resources, investments following the watershed approach, and support for water management committees have proven particularly promising.

Rationale for the project

In response to the above challenges, UNDP Mali has conceived and established Climate, Peace, Security portfolio of interventions addressing climate-related risks factors. Notably, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funds the "*Climate security and sustainable management of natural resources in the regions of the Centre of Mali for peacebuilding*", a USD 9 million project implemented the *Agence de l'Environnement de du Développement Durable* (AEDD). Furthermore, UNDP has developed a regional climate security programme for Western Sahel with a total budget amounting to USD 65 million. While the scope is regional, the first phase focuses on Mali's central regions that will serve as a catalytic testing ground where activities are rolled out with an initial contribution of DKK 40 million from Denmark. In partnership with IOM, UNDP is implementing a joint project to further integrate mobility-related aspects, notably transhumance and forced displacement, into the climate security approach, with financial support of SEK 50 million from Sweden. Other partners have expressed interest in supporting UNDP's Climate, Peace, Security interventions with several initiatives in the pipeline. The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), through the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) likewise supports local authorities in Mali in accessing the climate finance, tools, capacity building, and technical assistance they need to invest in adaptation, notably ecosystem-based adaptation, and ensure enhanced resilience for local communities and economies.

Nonetheless, despite efforts to support climate change adaptation and natural resource management by the Malian Government, UNDP, UNCDF, and other partners, Mali's trend to lose natural resources and land productivity faster than it can be restored continues. **There is an urgent need to ensure the long-term sustainability of vulnerable ecosystems and productive landscapes in the face of anthropogenic pressures and climate change.**

The recent Integrated Environmental Assessment of Mali by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNDP highlights the impact of different pressures and driving forces on Mali's environment and natural resources and reveals that the degradation of ecosystem services leads to increased competition among resource users[8]. Importantly, the pressures and driving forces are not uniform across Mali and their impacts vary by region and livelihood zone. Pressures on forests, lands, and water resources are more intense in densely populated parts of the country, such as the Region of Koulikoro. The UNEP/UNDP study shows that pressures are fast increasing in southern Mali due to the growth of economic activities related to livestock and agriculture. The impact is manifested in land degradation, pollution of waterways, bush fires, and a decline in forest cover. Indeed, all indications show that

[8] UNEP and UNDP (December 2022): Evaluation Environnementale Intégrée du Mali

pressures and risks are increasing in the South and the West of the country. However, donor investments in Mali are currently focused on the North and the Center of the country, where problems related to insecurity are very visible. **From a prevention perspective, it is important that the risks in southwestern regions do not escape attention[9].**

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mali's interlinked challenges of degradation of natural resources amid climate change and unsustainable exploitation practices threaten the vulnerable ecosystems and multiply risk of conflict over access and sharing of natural resources. **The project overall objective is to ensure the long-term sustainability of vulnerable productive landscapes in Mali's Koulikoro Region through public and community investments in nature-based solutions that simultaneously reverse deforestation, land degradation, strengthen households', communities' and local economies' resilience to climate change impacts and contribute to conflict prevention.** The specific objectives are:

- Reinforce public partnerships and leverage investments in climate change adaption.
- Strengthen capacities of local authorities, technical services and communities to address climate-related risks and sustainable management of natural resources in local planning and investments.
- Support peaceful, sustainable, and inclusive governance of land, forests, and water.
- Strengthen community and household-level resilience, notably for women and youth, amid climate change.

In restoring degraded ecosystem services and transforming the local economies and livelihoods towards more sustainable and resilient agro-pastoral economies and ecosystems the project builds on and scales up UNDP's existing climate, peace, and security portfolio as well as Mali's implementation of the *LoCAL Climate Adaptive Living Facility* with support from UNCDF. It likewise intends to complement the "*Portefeuille Thématique Climat au Sahel*" (PTCS 2022-2026) implemented by Enabel in Koulikoro Region by implementing complementarity activities in PTCS intervention communes and enlarging the number of communes benefitting from a comprehensive package of adaptation and sustainable management activities.

Project design follows from a consultative process through which UNDP has engaged closely with local authorities and technical services in Koulikoro Region as well as key actors involved in ecosystems restoration and inclusive and sustainable natural resources management in the region, such as Enabel. Notably, UNDP in collaboration with Enabel convened consultative workshop in August 2023 under the auspices of the Governorate of Koulikoro Region to i) meet and exchange with local actors, ii) discuss possible intervention communes, iii) identify challenges and priority activities for each commune, iv) map actors and existing and planned interventions, and v) identify potential implementation partners. In addition to UNDP, UNCDF, Enabel, and the AEDD the workshop was attended by regional technical services, such as water and forestry, agriculture, animal industries departments. Following these consultations, UNDP and UNCDF carried out bilateral discussions with Enabel's PTCS office in Koulikoro.

The proposed project is aligned with and directly contributes to Mali's adaptation priorities as per the revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) adopted in August 2021 and adaptation priorities for 2020-2030, notably through its focus on reforestation and ecosystem restoration, sustainable water management, climate-smart agriculture, and clean energy.

[9] Weathering Risk (October 2022): Climate, Peace and Security Assessment: Mali

Specifically, the project will be aligned with and contribute towards the same objectives as the following flagship sectoral projects inscribed in the NDC:

Agriculture:

- Programme d'appui au renforcement des capacités d'adaptation au changement climatique au Mali

Energy:

- Projet Multi-Energies pour la Résilience et la Gestion Intégrée des Terroirs

Civil society and local authorities

- Le programme d'Appui à l'Adaptation aux Changement Climatique dans la zone sahélienne du Mali (PAACC/ Sahel)
- Appui à l'amélioration de l'Environnement à travers les Actions Communautaires PHASE II (PAEAC)

Capacity Strengthening:

- Renforcement des capacités des collectivités territoriales pour l'intégration des Changements Climatiques dans les PDSEC et pour un changement de comportement du centre de formation des collectivités territoriales

If the project assumptions are met, the delivery of the three project components will result in further gains along the pathway to climate resilience in Mali. In doing so the joint project will contribute towards the objectives enshrined in the *Cadre Stratégique pour la Relance Économique et le Développement Durable* (CREDD) 2019-2023 as well as the implementation of the recommendations from the *Assises nationales de la refondation de l'État* at the end of 2021[10]. Furthermore, the project is anchored in the National Environmental Protection Policy (1998) and its action plan, the agricultural Land Policy of Mali (2014) that addresses weak land governance while recognizing customary land rights and steps to improve women's access to agricultural land, the National Forestry Policy (2017) that aims to ensure integrated and sustainable management of forest and wildlife resources, the national biodiversity strategy and action plan and the Law on Agricultural Orientation (2005) that guides Mali's agricultural development policy and aims to promote sustainable farming and agricultural enterprise that protect the environment and promote investments in sustainable land management and agro-ecological diversification.

The project is aligned directly with Axe 2 (inclusive and resilient growth and environmental sustainability) of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Mali (UNSDCF). Overall, the project will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals 5 (gender equality), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 13 (Climate Action), 15 (Life on Land), and 16 (Peace, justice, and strong institutions) as well as Sub-Goal 17:14 (Policy coherence for Sustainable Development). It will also contribute to the efforts undertaken by the Government of Mali in the framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With the focus on anticipating risks and protecting lives, livelihoods, and social and environmental assets of populations the project contributes to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Finally, project is aligned and can be considered as a concrete response to the call to action formulated by countries in West Africa and the Sahel and

[10] No less than 61 recommendations were made on the theme of environment and sustainable development, including policy, regulatory and institutional aspects of environmental governance; pollution and nuisance control; promotion of sustainable resource management; and promotion of environmental information, education and communication.

participants in the Regional Conference on Climate Change, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel in April 2022[11].

The project will be implemented jointly by UNDP and UNCDF, each agency drawing on existing programme portfolio and comparative advantage. This partnership will enable cross-agency learning and add to UNDP's already established approach in the field on climate, peace, and security in Mali. Together, the two agencies will implement a comprehensive package of activities to support resilience to climate-related risk and stress factors and build capacity at national, local, and community levels articulated around three mutually complementing programmatic pillars.

Result 1: Strengthened climate change adaptation policy framework and partnerships

This component will support on-the-ground efforts of Components 2 and 3 by creating an enabling institutional and policy environment framework that supports strategies for climate change adaptation and sustainable and peaceful management of natural resources and ecosystems while leveraging partnerships and increasing investments in adaptation. In doing so UNDP and UNCDF will work simultaneously at national and subnational levels to ensure that national policy frameworks and investments for climate change adaptation translate into strengthened planning and implementation capacity in Mali's Koulikoro Region. Other regions will likewise benefit from institutional support at national level under this project, and UNDP with support of UNCDF will seek to expand integration into local-level planning and capacity strengthening in other parts of Mali through other funding sources, including through its existing portfolio in the Centre.

The project constitutes an opportunity to attract additional climate-funding for some of the most exposed and vulnerable populations in Africa, which have long been disadvantaged and received less support than more stable settings[12]. Donors are now stepping forward to invest in more fragile settings. UNDP has for instance mobilized funding from the GEF to launch programmes in central Mali, and this project will build on and leverage such investments. At the same time, Malian authorities have shown a renewed commitment to accelerate efforts to restore and protect ecosystems in the face of anthropogenic pressures and climate change and prioritize prevention.

As part of its Climate Promise, UNDP has provided significant support for the elaboration of Mali's revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC, 2021), and this support will continue with the support of Belgium in favor of adaptation and re-greening strategies. As a privileged partner of the *Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Assainissement et du Développement Durable* (MEADD) and the AEDD, UNDP will work to broaden the partner base and attract investments in complementarity with other institutional partners of the Malian Government, notably Enabel that will support NDC monitoring under the PTCS. UNDP is likewise supporting the development of Mali's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) ailing to i) reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience and ii) integrate adaptation into new and existing national, sectoral and sub-national policies and programmes, especially development strategies, plans, and budgets. An interim NAP will be prepared in advance of the COP28 and subsequent submission to the Green Climate Fund.

In doing so, UNDP will strengthen the dialogue between Malian authorities and technical and financial partners in order to accelerate implementation of the existing policy framework in

[11] Organized jointly by the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), Ireland, the Republic of Ghana and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in collaboration with ECOWAS member States and the United Nations System in Dakar, Senegal, from 6 to 7 April 2022.
12 UNDP (2021): Climate finance for sustaining peace – Making Climate Finance Work for Conflict-Affected and Fragile Contexts.

terms of climate change adaptation and environmental restoration and protection. This will require renewed engagement on the government side along with additional bilateral and multilateral funding. Conscious of the limited public funds for environmental protection (1.13%)[13], UNDP will continue to advocate for increased appropriations by the Malian government, including for NDC implementation, bilaterally and through the already existing coordination structures for technical and financial partners (GEC and its thematic working groups).

Output 1.1 Institutional support to operationalization of the NDC and NAP investment plans at the national level

Under this project UNDP will support the AEDD in operationalizing the NDC investment plan through the development of a resource mobilization strategy and advocacy support. The investment plan provides a catalogue of investable projects each contributing to the attainment of Mali's engagements in terms of climate change mitigation and adaptation in several sectors, including agriculture, forestry, and waste management and integration of climate-related security risks. The project will support the recruitment of a national consultant and a workshop for national and international stakeholders. An integrated communication strategy for the NDC and the NPA and tailored to specific audiences in the donor community will likewise be elaborated. UNDP will also support launch of the investment plan through national, regional, and global platforms and engage with partners, notably vertical funds, interested in supporting Mali's mitigation and adaptation efforts, while encouraging and supporting the Malian Government in increasing own funding for NDC implementation and developing fiscal measures to support achievement of Mali's commitments. Despite a comprehensive framework of policies and international commitments in terms of climate adaptation, coherence is needed, and the Government is currently finalizing a NAP. This project will support the development of a NAP investment plans, key investable priority initiatives, and an NAP partner platform in Bamako in order to take the process forward and support Malian authorities in efforts to attract additional climate adaptation funding.

While external expertise and support is required in order to achieve these deliverables, the support rendered will focus on knowledge transfer and capacity building with national partners, notably the AEDD. Further, as noted in the NCD, sustainable water management will be a transversal priority for the NAP as it concerns all sectors, notably forestry and agriculture. UNDP, in consultation with the National Directorate of Hydraulics, has sought identify ways in which the project can support Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), at policy-level through integration in the NAP and its investment plan and through community-level activities under results 2 and 3. Finally, as part of institutional capacity support UNDP will apply a gender-lens and ensure that the realities and specific needs of women, youth, and vulnerable groups are reflected in climate adaptation and mitigation priority actions and investment plans.

Activity 1.1.1: Institutional support for operationalization of the NDC Investment Plan and advocacy for increased external and internal funding
Activity 1.1.2: Technical support for development of NAP Investment Plan, priority initiatives, and a partner platform

Output 1.2 Vertical integration of NDC and NAP

To ensure of that the commitments and targets NDC and NAP become efficient vehicles to mobilize and translate investments into climate action in the regions of Mali UNDP and UNCDF

[13] Republic of Mali (2020): Programme de définition des cibles nationales de la Neutralité de dégradation des Terres.

will likewise provide technical support for integration into regional, district, and commune-level planning documents. In doing so the two agencies will work closely with the *Agence de Développement Régional* (ADR) of Koulikoro and district-level authorities to strengthen their capacities and ability to support municipalities in taking into account the NDC in their development plans. Targeted capacity building support and technical assistance will contribute to the verticalization of NDC and NAP objectives, their appropriation by local actors, and integration into local planning systems (See also Output 2.1).

UNDP in collaboration with the AEDD and other national stakeholders will support integration of NDC and NAP priorities into regional-level planning cycles and investment. This activity will also target ADRs of other regions in Mali, notably that of Mopti Region that is a key partner in the existing climate security portfolio and involve capacity training of regional-level stakeholders in view of upcoming regional planning cycles. In the case of Koulikoro Region where the current PDSEC runs from 2023-2027, UNDP will support a review process in line with national guidelines to update the PDSEC and regional-level investment plan.

Leveraging experience from the LoCAL implementation in Mali, UNCDF will support better integration of climate risk assessments at the local level and the mainstreaming of adaptation and natural resource management priorities into selected local authorities' planning and budgeting systems, in a participatory, gender inclusive, and conflict sensitive manner. Koulikoro's ADR and competent state services, notably AEDD and the *Agence Nationale d'Investissements des Collectivités Territoriales* (ANICT), will be supported and mobilized to deliver necessary technical support. Thus, the project will provide training and capacity strengthening for key stakeholders at national and regional level to manage targeted investments in adaptation and ensure they respond to local government mandates, integrate NDC and NAP priorities, opens the way for enhanced access to climate finance in selected municipalities, improve livelihoods, and strengthen social cohesion at the local level.

Activity 1.2.1: Support for regional development agencies to support NDC integration in local development plans
Activity 1.2.2: Capacity building and technical assistance for the integration of climate change adaptation into local planning and budgeting

Result 2: Preservation and peaceful and sustainable management of ecosystems and natural resources

The project will support forest and land restoration, leveraging assisted natural regeneration (ANR) technologies, sustainable land and water management, and activities to reverse deforestation. It aims at improved sustainability of watersheds and ecosystems through rehabilitation, including community-managed natural regeneration of landscapes and ecosystems such as grasslands and rangelands, forests, and restoration of water sources. At the same time the peaceful and sustainable management of natural resources will be enhanced through support for community-level usage conventions and inclusive mechanisms for land tenure, IWRM, and conflict prevention.

A key assumption of the project is that restoration and resource management efforts can only prevail with full community buy-in and in a context of inclusive and consensual management of resources. Where there are tensions, let alone violent conflict, between and within communities and livelihoods groups over the usage is increasingly scarce and less productive resources, the impact and sustainability of investments will be severely compromised. All restoration activities under this joint project are thus community-led and, importantly, accompanied by efforts to strengthen transparent and inclusive resource management at community and municipality level. The main emphasis of this result is focused on activities

at field level involving communities and their management structures, deconcentrated technical services, and local government.

The restoration of and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems will mitigate climate change-induced stress (e.g., drought, floods, and soil erosion), improve microclimates, increase carbon sequestration, and contribute to global environmental benefits. The nature-based solutions applied under the project will follow the principles of conflict-sensitive adaptation – critical in areas where there is high dependence on natural resources and in already fragile (politically, socially, economically, environmentally) contexts.

Output 2.1 Sustainable and inclusive governance of land, forest and water resources

Under this output the project will strengthen local-level governance of natural resources to prevent tension and conflict between user groups and communities. Traditionally, communities would resort to traditional conflict resolution mechanisms that would regulate access to land, water, forests, and other resources and arbitrate in case of conflict. Such structures now exist in parallel with the judicial system and relatively recent (semi-)formal structures, such as land tenure commissions (CoFos - at commune and village-level) and local water management committees (CLEs), though rarely fully implemented or functional. Activities will be informed by mappings of the functionality and gaps in existing Natural Resource Management (NRM) architecture and other available assessments and aim at strengthening the presence and capacities of NRM mechanisms and local authorities and technical services, while ensuring inclusiveness and involvement of women, youth, and other groups marginalized in decision-making.

Where local governance mechanisms exist, UNDP and partners will work to dynamize and strengthen these based on documented needs and capacity gaps., drawing on UNDP's already extensive work and expertise with land tenure committees in the Centre of Mali[14], while aligning tools and methodologies with the PTCS, notably for the creation of village-level CoFo. Where no formal NRM governance architecture exists, UNDP will consider establishing NRM committees, but the preference will be strengthened and support existing structures whenever possible in order to avoid a proliferation of mechanisms with potentially overlapping coverage, membership, and mandates. Local NRM mechanisms will be supported and trained in existing tenure rights and how to facilitate the establishment and enforcement of local-level user agreements. In order to build local-level ownership and ensure monitoring of NRM capacities UNDP will support the organization of knowledge-exchange and experience-sharing meetings between natural NRM structures at commune level and regular joint monitoring and evaluation of local NRM structures with technical departments. Interventions will be coordinated with other actors supporting NRM through the coordination mechanisms already established by UNDP, the *Secrétariat Permanent de la Loi d'Orientation Agricole* (SP-LOA), and Mercy Corps as well as Enabel that is establishing 60 CoFos at village-level in four communes in Koulikoro Region and the NGO Project Multi-Energy for Resilience and Integrated Land Management (MERIT) that is intervening in support, of NRM mechanisms in the same cercles as UNDP and Enabel.

Working with the Koulikoro ADR, the project will likewise support local authorities and technical services to integrate risk and priority actions linked to land tenure, sustainable resource management, and climate adaptation issues in local PDSEC of intervention communes to enhance ownership and sustainability of actions. This will be done departing in NDC and NAP priorities in link with Output 1.2 of the project. As part of its other climate

[14] The « Programme d'appui à la stabilisation du Mali à travers le renforcement de l'État de droit » (PROSMED) has established and redynamized hundreds of CoFos in Mali in past years.

security projects in the Centre of Mali, UNDP has already developed a methodology for integrating natural resource management and climate-related risk into local planning documents in collaboration with regional development agencies and departing in the national guidelines issued by the *Direction Nationale de l'Aménagement du Territoire* (DNAT). Key actors involved in planning processes include municipalities, regional statical services and the agricultural, animal industries, hydraulic, and water and forestry departments. The PTCS plans to support the review of PDSECs in the communes of Doumba, Sirakorola, and Méguétan in Koulikoro cercle while MERIT is covering Koula (also targeted by PTCS) and Tienfala in Koulikoro and Duguwolowila in Banamba cercle as well as other localities in the three cercles targeted by this project. UNDP will only implement this activity in communes not covered by other actors (see below on intervention zones, geographic coverage, and complementarity).

The promotion of more sustainable, peaceful and gender-inclusive resource governance at community-level will be underpinned by small-scale initiatives to support more efficient and inclusive NRM in communities based on identified conflict flash points. In line with a set menu of eligible investments, communes will orient use of the funds towards key initiatives prioritized in PDSEC and adaptation and investment plans. Examples of initiatives that might be considered for funding include rehabilitation of basic infrastructure to facilitate NRM processes, e.g., pastoral corridors, shared water points, and micro-damns, etc. Specific rehabilitation needs will be established through a participatory process with beneficiary communities and technical services and in alignment with PDSEC priorities. Small-scale community initiatives will aim to foster dialogue and trust across user groups. Depending on specific types of infrastructure, the project will support the establishment of local management structures that can raise revenue for maintenance and repairs, e.g., through usage fees, and advocate for inclusion in communal budget. It should be noted that part of the investments financed at the local level will be implemented through Cash for Work schemes, thus allowing economic integration and generating better employment opportunities, especially for women and young people.

Through the LoCAL mechanism, the municipalities of Méguetan, Noussoumbougou and Benkadi will receive necessary funds in the form of Performance Based Climate Resilience Grants (PBCRGs) to implement natural resource management initiatives [15]. In line with LoCAL Mali's design, PBCRGs will be channeled through existing fiscal transfer mechanisms (i.e., special circuit within FNACT/ANICT). The performance of each local government will be appraised annually. Based on a set of minimum conditions and performance measures, these annual performance assessments will serve to determine how efficiently effectively additional resources have been used and how core functions were performed by the communes as well as the extent to which climate change adaptation was integrated into planning and budgeting in a gender sensitive and participatory manner. Meanwhile, regular audits will be undertaken as part of the established national process. The performance results will inform the PBCRG allocations for the next year, based on a pre-agreed formula and priority capacity-building activities designed to address weaker performance areas.

Activity 2.1.1: Establish/dynamize and support inclusive natural resource management mechanisms
Activity 2.1.2: Integrate natural resource governance and related climate risk in local level planning documents
Activity 2.1.3: Effective roll out of the PBCRG mechanism in targeted communes
Activity 2.1.4: Create and rehabilitate community infrastructures for peaceful sharing of land, forest and water resources, notably through grants to municipalities.

[15] An average grant of 40,000 USD to the three targeted municipalities during two cycles of operations is planned. A co-financing of approximately USD 40,000 to achieve this objective is foreseen.

Output 2.2 Sustainable management and restoration of forest and land

The project will target forest, land, and water resources outside of family farms for rehabilitation. Local technical services, such as the *Direction Régionale de l'Agriculture* (DRA), *Direction Régionale des Eaux et Forêts* (DREF)*, Direction Régionale de la Pêche* (DRP), *Direction Régionale de l'Hydraulique* (DRH)and *Direction Régionale de la Production et des Industries Animales* (DRPIA), will be consulted at an early stage and involved in activity planning and implementation as will other actors working on land restoration in Koulikoro, such as the World Food Programme (WFP) that is active in Kolokani cercle. To regreen and restore the target landscapes, the project will take a participatory approach mobilizing and training communities, particularly youth, accompanied by technical services in the mapping and geo-referencing natural resources that are severely degraded and requiring rehabilitation. This will cover degraded lands, pastures, water bodies, and forests and the specific restoration needs as well as existing usage practices and management structures. This baseline mapping will take place once the geographic targeting exercise has taken place during the inception phase (see below on location targeting). Subsequently, rehabilitation and preservation plans will be developed to identify prioritized activities.

The project will dispense trainings on the principles of ANR and Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM) to NRM committees and other community members, notably youth and women associations and groups, to analyze needs, and plan, carry out, and monitor sustainable rehabilitation works. Specific restoration activities can include fencing to protect zones from transhumant cattle herders, bank restoration, dredging, local earth dams, reforestation through planting of local tree species, including fruit-growing species, restoration of former artisanal mining sites, restoration of agricultural lands and pastures, seeding of perennial grasses, and corrective measures for watercourses. Works will be carried out by community members and involve Cash for Work schemes taking into account the specific capacities and needs of different groups and conscious of not, e.g., assigning inappropriate workload to young women and negatively affecting school attendance. The project will also provide training and inputs for adoption of soil and water conservation strategies, such as half-moons, zai pits, contour bunds with stones, etc.

The mobilization of communities in restoration efforts will translate in the establishment of local commune-level platforms to support continuous learning and skills development necessary for preservation and regreening in collaboration with local technical services, notably the water and forestry, hydraulics, agricultural, and statistical departments. These platforms will likewise facilitate the regular monitoring of the state of natural resources.

Activity 2.2.1: Participatory community-led mapping of degraded natural resources
Activity 2.2.2: Training and equipment of community groups for regreening and restoration
Activity 2.2.3: Support for continual training on rehabilitation and sustainable management of ecosystems

Result 3: Improved resilience of farming communities facing climate change and environmental degradation

Under this result, the project will support communities to adapt to climate change effects and better cope with climatic and other shocks. The project will enable socio-economic co-benefits through enhanced productivity of agro-pastoral systems and diversity of ecosystem goods and services available to households, notably woman-headed and vulnerable households, through increased accessibility and benefits of sustainable value chains and improved employability. At the same time, the adoption of improved farming practices and diversification of livelihoods will alleviate the pressures on natural resources, notably forests, and reduce the footprint of agriculture and food systems thereby underpinning restoration and

resource management efforts under Result 2. UNDP's approach notably harnesses increased **access to clean energy sources and improved water accessibility** and management to promote climate-smart agriculture, sustainable forestry, and other income-generating activities. Overall, improved access to efficient renewable energies offers significant diversification opportunities and socio-economic co-benefits across intervention communities and has the potential to unlock green entrepreneurship, notably for youth and women. Yet, awareness of the opportunities offered by renewable energy and knowledge on how to procure, use, and maintain energy sources is limited in the general population and with technical services, as consistently observed by local stakeholders consulted.

The project provides the opportunity to support the green economy in Mali, particularly the renewable energy sector. Recent studies have highlighted the positive contribution that the green economy can have to enhance sustainable development and community resilience in Mali[16]. As wood and biomass are the main energy sources for 78% of households, the Malian Government is supporting a transition towards renewable energies, given the tremendous effect that wood-energy has on desertification. Currently only 3% of conventional electricity is produced by renewable energy sources. The project thus represents an opportunity to leverage the untapped potential these new and increasingly affordable technologies offer and have a catalytic effect across sectors.

Output 3.1 Promoting of climate smart agriculture and efficient water management

The project will support the adoption of climate-smart practices by farmers and herders, in collaboration with the agricultural extension services, the regional agricultural chamber, farmers organizations, the *Institut d'Economie Rurale* (IER), and *Institut polytechnique rural de formation et de recherche appliquée* (IPR/IFRA) situated in Koulikoro Region. This will happen through improved access to drought-resistant and otherwise climate resilient seed varieties of millet, sorghum, maize, and rice and the creation of local seed production facilities by training volunteer producers. UNDP has already tested different varieties of drought-resistant seeds in Kolokani cercle (only of the intervention zones of this project) in 2017 under an adaptation project financed by Canada. Evaluations of this intervention are largely positive noting increased resilience and a positive impact for women. The role of the IER was likewise noted as imperative in identifying varieties appropriate for intervention locations[17]. Seeds used under this project will be subject to quality controls as per Malian legislation. The regional seed services under the Ministry of Agriculture are mandated to carry out quality control and laboratory tests according to nationally determined standards. The project will likewise provide training and technical support for fodder production, organic fertilizer production, composting, and integrated pest management to control pests and lowering the need for synthetic pesticides. Adoption of such techniques preserves ecosystems, increases biodiversity, and shields useful organisms from harm, while responding to the needs of most climate-vulnerable communities and creating environmental benefits such as reduction in soil degradation, increased yields, and less cleared areas. Trials will be conducted in farmer field schools, and beneficiary farmers, with a priority given to women, will experiment with the different techniques that enables a sustainable adoption of new practices.

[16] IOM (2022): Opportunités dans l'économie verte : comment améliorer la résilience des migrants de retour et des communautés de départs.

[17] PNUD (2017): Rapport d'évaluation finale du projet : « Renforcer la capacité d'adaptation et la résilience des communes de Sandare, Massantola, Cinzana et M'pessoba face aux changements climatiques dans le secteur agricole au Mali ».

To assist in scaling up adoption, the project will develop and pilot gender-sensitive communication in local languages on climate-smart agriculture, sustainable land management practices, and climate change adaptation more generally. Farmer days will be organized with agricultural extension services, NGOs (*Nitidae* for instance or NGO with similar expertise), and local agricultural research institutions (IER and IPR/IFRA for instance) to present new techniques and enable dissemination and up-take.

Activities under this output will be underpinned by support for improved access to water and water management systems at family farms and at community level notably through solar pumping systems for irrigation and techniques for water storage and soil moisture conservation. The project will install an estimated six solar pumping and irrigation systems. Irrigation systems will depend on the specific site, but the project will prioritize installation of irrigation hydrants fed by intergroup piping as this technology is well-known by local populations and user-friendly for market gardening, etc. Clean, cheap, and reliable solar water pumps can help scale agricultural production sustainably, while simultaneously contributing to climate change mitigation and community resilience. Solar-powered systems are quickly replacing diesel pumps as the preferred source of irrigation given their efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and relatively easy operations. Solar power is particular feasible in the Malian context and in line with the energy transition national policies. Given the frequent load shedding and grid break downs, solar pumps have a clear advantage, especially for deeper boreholes. Manual pumping is not a suitable alternative given the significant amounts of water required for irrigation and the strain it put on users, notably women who carry out most of the market gardening activities, girls in charge of collecting water for household chores, and vulnerable persons. As the solar pumping technology is growing in Mali a number of local vendors have sprung up providing installation, maintenance and repair services. Selection of locations to install pumps and irrigation systems will depend on hydrogeological data analysis of water availability and needs in targeted communities. UNDP will undertake assessments with regional rural engineering and hydraulic technical services to avoid unintended environmental consequences, including technical and environmental feasibility studies and certifications required under Malian law. User committees will be set up and trained in managing access to water points, basic maintenance, and troubleshooting. Each committee will be responsible for establish byelaws for the usage and maintenance of water systems in a participatory manner. To ensure the durability of infrastructure and involvement of community in the maintenance of the installation, a contribution will be collected from users/beneficiaries and allocated to the cost of maintenance. In addition, efforts will be made to introduce the new technology prior to investments. This may include organizing demonstration plots and conducting farmer field days (see above).

Activity 3.1.1: Training on climate-smart agricultural techniques and fodder production and provision of seeds
Activity 3.1.2: Communication strategy on climate change adaptation and agriculture
Activity 3.1.3: Solar pumping systems for irrigation and support for improved water management

Output 3.2 Livelihood diversification notably through access to clean energy

UNDP and partners will carry out interventions at household and community levels to support populations developing more resilient livelihoods. The livelihood activities aim to increase the income of participants and render individuals and households more resilient in case of shocks for which their existing coping strategies are inadequate and thereby protecting them from negative and/or risk coping mechanisms that will compromise their safety, health, and prospects for self-reliance. A number of value chains offer opportunities for income-generating activities and employment through transformation and processing activities. The

livelihoods interventions will rely on local skills and capacities to ensure the sustainability beyond the activity period through which UNDP and partners provide training and resources. As part of UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards screenings (see below) will be carried out before the start of any intervention to assess risk and minimize potential harm to individuals and to the natural environment.

UNDP will undertake mappings of local nature-based solutions combining local knowledge and know-how and access to clean energy sources, notably directed towards youth and women, that will inform not only the intervention approach, but also the knowledge base available. Mappings will be led by UNDP Accelerator Lab in collaboration with private sector actors that work in the green/energy sector and research institutions. Identified solutions should be appropriate (i.e., sensitive to gender, youth, people with disabilities, as well as indigenous people and local communities) and feasible (at technical, knowledge, capacity, financial, institutional levels) and include measures to improving resilience of livelihoods, where possible through nature-based solutions.

Through improved access to clean energy sources, notably photovoltaic sources, the project will increase access to water (in linkage with activity 3.1.3) and processing machinery. This could include installation of multifunctional solar-powered processing kiosks that will provide processing capacity for crops, facilitate storage, provide access to essential energy services, and generate income for beneficiaries. The project will support the crating of user groups and associations, primarily made up of female and youth beneficiaries, that will be trained in use and maintenance of equipment, basic troubleshooting, storage, and marketing of transformed produce, etc. Members will be expected to contribute toward the maintenance of equipment as per group byelaws.

The project will likewise support technologies for substitution of firewood and clean cooking that will reduce pressure on forest resources and reduce the burden on and risk for girls and women collecting firewood. NGOs such as Mali Folk Center and the MERIT project are already promoting such technologies in the interventions zone and UNDP will carry out a mapping of available clean cooking technologies at the outset of the project and assess the most appropriate products to introduce in collaboration with other actors. The project will notably consider biodigester technology as an alternative to firewood as energy supply for local communities. This technology is currently being implemented by several partners, including SNV that is scaling up use of biodigesters across the region (Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger), Biodigesters transform organic wastes (domestic, animal, and agricultural waste) into biogas can be used for domestic purpose, generate small scale electricity, and fuel gas for motorized equipment such as mills and huskers with direct benefits for women. Organic fertilizer that also result from the transformation can be used in crop production to increase soil nutrient supply and improving soil structure. This will ensure a sustainable access to energy while benefiting local communities by reducing energy costs, improving agricultural activities, and protecting remaining forests. Evaluations from Burkina Faso testify to the socio-economic benefits (biogas, organic fertilizer, and sanitation) generated by the technology that is well suited to rural households[18].

Additionally, improved access to water through solar-power pumping systems will enable dry season market gardening (women making up 70.2% of the population engaged in this livelihood activity). It will likewise facilitate the establishment of tree nurseries for production of tree seedlings for different endemic species, which are climate-resilient, and can be integrated into agroforestry systems for non-timber forest products (NTFP), notably fruit-bearing species (see output 2.2). UNDP will establish a user association and management

[18] SNV (2021): Household bio-digester installations in selected countries in Africa and Asia in 2021

committee for each facility and encourage these to establish byelaws through a participatory process, including responsibilities for maintenance schemes, etc.

Activity 3.2.1: Mapping of gender-sensitive nature-based solutions for livelihood diversification.
Activity 3.2.2: Renewable clean energy sources for water supply, livelihood diversification, and clean cooking
Activity 3.2.3: Support for market gardening and tree nurseries through training and support with seedlings

Intervention zones

The project will target up to nine communes in the Region of Koulikoro.

- UNDP and UNCDF will complement Enabel's PTCS programme in the commune of Méguétan (Koulikoro cercle) and intervene in villages not covered by PTCS ensuring maximum alignment of intervention approaches. UNDP might also complement PTCS by implementing complementary activities in villages targeted by PTCS where adaptation and restoration needs are particularly urgent and implement activities under outcomes 2 and 3.
- In addition, the project has tentatively targeted the communes of Dinandougou (Koulikoro cercle), Nonsombougou (Kolokani cercle) and Benkadi (Banamba cercle) in which the full package of activities under outcomes 2 and 3 will be implemented to scale-up the sum of climate adaptation and ecosystem restoration interventions.
- Furthermore, the neighbouring communes of Ouolodo, Nonkon, Banamba, Tougouni and Koulikoro will benefit from capacity strengthening and policy support activities under outcome 1 and 2, but not the more cost-intensive package of restoration and resilience-building activities.
- Activities under outcomes 1 and 2 will likewise target authorities and technical services at regional level as well in the cercles of Koulikoro, Banamba and Kolokani.

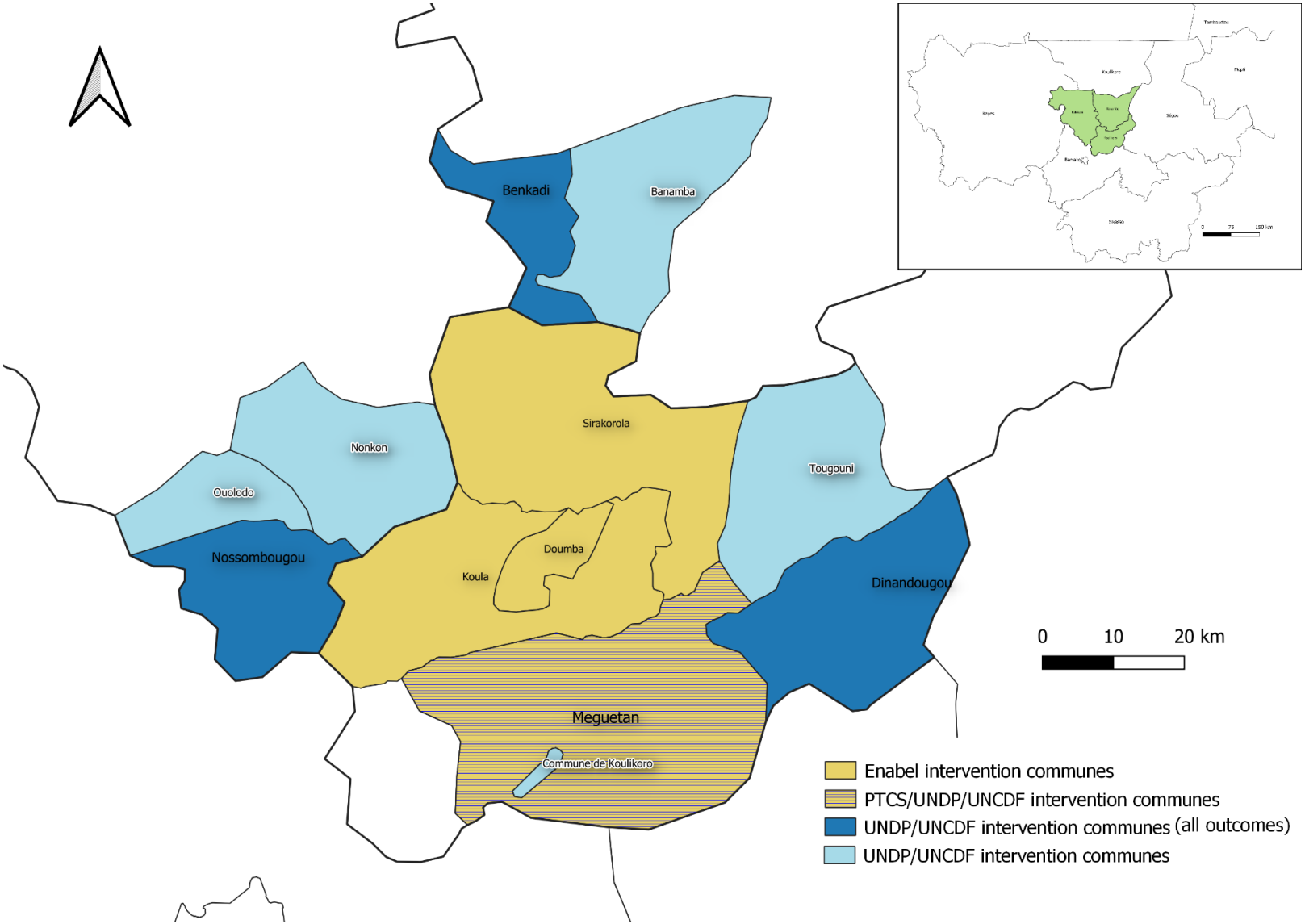
This initial targeting follows from a consultative process that included a range of stakeholders, notably local technical services and other actors present in the region as well as civil society under the auspices of the Governor of Koulikoro Region (see above on the stakeholder workshop). UNDP has likewise carried out a mapping of other key actors active in Koulikoro region, notably Enabel and NGOs such as MERIT. It is likewise planned to consult the European Union (IRRIGAR III and APSAN), GIZ (PASSIP), KfW, and the World Bank who all fund projects in Koulikoro Region. Based on these stakeholder consultations the following targeting criteria have been applied to tentatively identify intervention communes:

- **Degraded lands and ecosystems:** The project will prioritize communes where there are significant degradation of lands and deforestation using data from SIFOR, ICRAF and other available databases.
- **Exposure to and vulnerabilities to climate changes:** The project will target communes that are facing the greatest exposure to climate changes and where eco-systems and livelihoods are under pressure. The targeting process will consider data on forest cover and other climate and environmental indicators and projections where these exist. Beyond exposure, the vulnerability of populations will be taken into account and factors such as food security levels, malnutrition, gender inequalities.
- **Tensions over land tenure and shared natural resources:** UNDP will identify and target locations where resource-related conflict or tensions are observed, notably between different user/livelihoods groups.

- **Presence of State authorities:** This project will target communes where authorities and technical maintain a presence, despite spreading violence. In order to deliver on several key activities and ensure the sustainability of results the active involvement of competent technical services is required.
- **Complementarity with other actions:** Complementarity and coherence with other interventions by UNDP, Enabel and other actors working across the climate-security nexus is and will be considered.
- **Acceptable security and stable access for UNDP and partners:** Even relatively stable zones, such as Koulikoro Region, are now witnessing increasing levels of violence and access for international and local development actors is under pressure. It is critical that UNDP and partners can deploy the required expertise to sites with a low risk of interruption. Should the security and access situation deteriorate drastically UNDP will consider temporarily suspend activities and as a last resort consider delocalization.

The targeting of specific villages and project locations in the five intervention communes will only be established during the inception phase of the project. UNDP will consult Enabel and its implementing partner ICRAF in order to align methodologies for targeting of specific intervention villages, notably for the four PTCS communes, while also drawing on UNDP's already established and tested targeting methodology used in other project under its climate security portfolio. Targeting will follow a consultative approach and involve a number of local stakeholders but will likewise consider the above criteria used for targeting at commune level.

Figure 1: Proposed intervention communes in Koulikoro Region



Implementation flexibility to adapt the program to insecurity and instability

Since the beginning of the crisis in 2012, Mali has been subject to significant political instability, which has increased recently with the start of the political transition process in August 2020, and increasing insecurity and armed violence, spreading from the Center towards southern part of the country and Koulikoro is witnessing an increasing frequency of attacks by armed groups in zones adjacent to project interventions zones. UNDP's adaptive management approach implies that the specific geographical targeting for the project might be subject to review at the outset and throughout the project in response to the evolving security situation: On an annual basis, detailed activity workplans will be developed, taking into account the overall context, nationally and in intervention zones. The specific geographic targeting will also be continually reviewed and UNDP on the advice of the project Steering Committee, might decide to relocate activities to other locations in consultation with the donor. UNDP will duly inform and consult the donor and project steering committee in case any changes are required to ensure the successful implementation of the project.

Beneficiary Targeting

The four communes tentatively targeted by UNDP and UNCDF for activities under all outcomes of this project have an estimated population of 90,270 persons (45,436 women and 44,834 men), not counting internally displaced persons[19]. With the additional locations that will benefit from activities under outcomes 1 and 2 have the total population in intervention zones is estimated 219,294 persons (109,545 women 109,749 men). The joint project will directly benefit 8,642 persons (4,660 women and 3,982 men) who will be directly involved in or benefit from project activities under outcome 2 and 3 that will strengthen their household's and community's resilience capacities. It is estimated that 42,000 persons (21,420 women and 20,580 men) will benefit indirectly from these activities, notably those related to resilience building. Some activities will indirectly benefit the entire population of the intervention communes, notably institutional capacity at local level. In some cases, co-benefits of the project will extend into neighbouring communities and districts, notably the support for a better governance of climate-related security risks.

At community level, an inclusive and participatory process will be conducted to ensure involvement of all relevant stakeholders (local authorities, traditional leaders, and civil societies representatives) and population groups (such as women, youth, elderly, and persons living with disability). For each activity, beneficiary selection will be done in collaboration with local administration and leaders, and it will also include village assemblies to ensure transparency and community ownership over the project activities and results. As this project has a specific focus on contributing to social cohesion, trust, and collaboration within and between groups and communities, UNDP and UNCDF will ensure that women, youth, and other marginalized groups are included in the decision-making processes related to the selection of beneficiary and design of community-based activities. For instance, the project will contribute to improving the inclusivity of formal and informal conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms. In addition, the activities dedicated to the rehabilitation and creation of community infrastructures will empower community members who will identify common priorities and decide the equipment and material support they need. The committees that will be created to guide such processes will include representatives from local authorities, traditional leaders, youth associations, women organizations, and other civil society actors.

[19] 2017 projections based on 2009 census.

At household level, specific beneficiary selection criteria will be defined for each output and project activities. Nevertheless, the following main criteria will be used and refined:

- Ability to participate in project activities
- Households affected by floods or drought in the last 12 months
- Households with at least one member who has been forcibly displaced
- Households hosting at least one internally displaced person
- Households with at least one member impeded to conduct his/her regular livelihoods because of forced immobility
- Households headed by women
- Women-headed households

The individual beneficiaries who will be targeted by the project will have different profiles. Women and youth will be a priority target as the intervention will seek to involve at least 50% women and 25% youth. Other individuals who will be targeted by the project are traditional leaders as well as farmers, herders, and fisherfolks. In addition, about 5% of the projects direct beneficiaries are expected to be internally displaced individuals, 5% will be made up by persons facing forced immobility. Specific attention will be made to include people living with disability among the beneficiaries of the project and to adapt the activities to their needs and capacities.

Social and Environmental Standards

UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) require that the project undertakes meaningful, effective and informed consultation. This will involve undertaking differentiated approaches to engaging with certain groups and communities to ensure inclusion of marginalized and disadvantaged groups as well as to protect their safety and security if they are subject to forms of discrimination in the project areas. The joint project will conduct gender responsive stakeholder consultations. The SES also require special measures to ensure appropriate accommodation and facilitation for effective participation of project-affected persons with disabilities. The SES further specify that affected communities must be provided periodic progress reports on implementation of project management plans and mitigation measures and on issues of concern to stakeholders. Any material changes, incident, accident, corrective actions or additions to the mitigation measures or action plans also need to be communicated through the periodic reports, the frequency of which should be proportionate to the level of stakeholder concerns, but not less than annually. At project inception UNDP and UNCDF will develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan, detailing the consultations to be undertaken during project implementation by stakeholder type. The Project will conduct meaningful consultations with local communities, following Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) approach.

Partnerships, Learning, and Synergies

The two agencies will ensure continual dialogue with other interventions targeting Koulikoro Region to maximize complementarity and coherence of actors working across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus addressing fragilities from different angles. The programmatic lens that underlies climate security is by its nature focused on complementary action aimed at prevention and risk management and will contribute to common

humanitarian, development and peace outcomes. The complementary programmatic components aim at reducing vulnerability and exposure and building resilience thereby contributing to reduce needs for humanitarian action in the face of crisis, whether responding to the effects of conflict, disaster or displacement. Climate security action, and the activities planned under this joint project, likewise contribute directly to more stable and peaceful relations between communities and user groups while also addressing some of the deeper-lying drivers of conflict and fragility, such as lack livelihoods, weak governance, horizontal inequalities, and marginalization. Through its outcomes and the additional social and economic co-benefits the climate security project contributes to overall development efforts to build a more prosperous, stable, and harmonious society that is ready to face the challenges and stressors that will only increase as the full impact of climate change continues to materialize. This calls for joined-up and increased complementarity across all actors to address risks and vulnerabilities, strengthen prevention efforts and reduce needs as enshrined in the OECD DAC Recommendations on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus.

UNDP and UNCDF are working in close collaboration with the Malian Government and the various line ministries, such as the Ministry of Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion, the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, notably through the permanent secretariat of the national executive committee of the *Observatoire National du Foncier Agricole* (ONAFA). In Koulikoro Region, the agencies will work closely with relevant technical services for the planning and execution of activities, notably the agricultural, animal industries, civil protection, and forest and water departments along with regional and district authorities. At the national level, the two agencies will work closely with the *Agence de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable* (AEDD) for the provision of training and implementation of activities.

This project will leverage existing and longstanding institutional partnerships of UNDP and UNCF while it also provides opportunities to explore new innovative partnerships, e.g., with academic institutions, etc. The project will also be anchored in UNPD's longstanding partnership with the *Agence nationale de la Grande Muraille Verte* (ANGMV) with which UNDP will closely coordinate activities. Together the two structures expect to implement an ecosystem restoration programme in Kayes, Nara, Nioro, Ségou and Mopti regions with GEF-8 financing and the two initiatives will allow for shared learning and best practices. UNDP will likewise complement and promote learning between similar restoration projects, notably its climate security and land degradation neutrality programme under GEF-7 financing. As part of output 3.2, the project will also contribute to building strong business partnerships between beneficiary cooperative businesses and private sector actors, and address some of the key barriers to local engagement in green businesses such as lack of financial resources. Finally, UNDP will continue collaboration with civil society organizations, particularly women's organizations, such as the *Coordination des Associations et ONG Féminines du Mali* (CAFO), and youth organizations.

All programmatic pillars of UNDP's portfolio prioritize learning and knowledge sharing, including cross-border and organizational collaboration, including through the Panafrican Agency for the Great Green Wall, the Liptako-Gourma Authority, the *Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel* (CILLS) and Agrhymet and other regional platforms. As an integral part of UNDP climate, peace and security portfolio this project will benefit from learning and good practices emerging across the Sahel. Efforts to achieve synergies and learning will, for instance, be relayed at the UN Regional Working Group on Climate Change, Environment, Security and Development (UN-CCESD) was established in

June 2021 as a UN coordination platform in support of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Further, the joint project will work closely with regional experts deployed by the Climate Security Mechanism (CSM)[20] and the global Climate Security Community of Practice. UNDP's Climate Security Specialist in Mali is part of the CSM global network of Climate Security Advisors and as such working closely with both the Advisor at UNOWAS and the one at UNDP Regional Office in Dakar. As is the case for other ongoing programmes, this project will benefit from cross-country and organizational learning.

[20] Established in 2018 as a joint initiative between the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the UNDP and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), then joined by the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO), the CSM seeks to help the UN system address climate-related security risks more systematically.

6. INDICATIVE LOGFRAME - THEORY OF CHANGE

Project performance will be monitored using the indicators in the below logical framework. The indicators are aligned with UNDP Country Programme results framework and those of other climate security interventions implemented by UNDP in Mali. For a number of indicators, the baseline value will need to be established at the outset of the project through a baseline study (please see section 9.2). Annual performance targets will be established during the inception phase in the first six months of the project and reviewed annual on conjunction with the annual work plan.

Please refer to section 9.2 for further details on monitoring and evaluation arrangements.

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHOD
		Value	Year	Y1	Y2	FINAL	
Outcome 1	*# of partnerships (including government, academia or other stakeholders) in support of climate adaptation*	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Documentation from AEDD*
	# of local institutions with greater adaptation capacity for decreasing climate risks	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
Output 1.1	*# of partners contributing to the NDC investment plan (incl. amount)*	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Documentation from AEDD*
Output 1.2	*# of local planning documents that integrate climate security risk and adaptation measures*	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
	# and % of beneficiaries completing successfully trainings on climate risks and adaptation measures [disaggregated by gender, location, geography, age group, disability, type of group]	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
Outcome 2	*# of conflicts over the use of natural resources per year [disaggregated by location]*	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	% of conflicts over the use of natural resources resolved peacefully per year [disaggregated by location]	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	# of local community agreements in compliance with established sustainable management plans	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
Output 2.1	*# of assessment of local resources management systems and conflict management mechanisms available and disseminated (with information on where, how and to whom it was disseminated)*	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity report*
	# of community resource management committees established or strengthened [disaggregated by location, new/strengthened committee]	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
	# inclusive and gender-sensitive community development plans and recovery plans elaborated and disseminated (with information on where, how and to whom it was disseminated)	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
	# of local authorities with strengthened capacity to prevent and/or resolve conflicts related to natural resources (through training, transfer of knowledge, joint	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*

	development of CS risk plans) [disaggregated by gender, location, age group, type of state authority]						
Output 2.2	*# ha under sustainable management practices*	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports and endline*
	# ha degraded land restored	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports and endline*
	# ha forest restored	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports and endline*
	% reduction or reversal of bad land-use practices as well as forest degradation.	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
Outcome 3	*# household sources of earned income (disaggregated by gender and age)*	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	# of people whose climate resilience has increased [disaggregated by gender, location, geography (urban/rural), age group, type of group (e.g., IDPs, pastoralists, farmers, local entrepreneurs)]	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	% and # ha of land subject to climate resilient management	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	% or # ha of agricultural land subject to productive and sustainable agriculture	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
Output 3.1	*# producers using sustainable, innovative, and resilient land and water management techniques (disaggregated by gender and age)*	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	# of good practices disseminated by small farmers (disaggregated by gender and age)	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
	# of good practices adopted for sustainable water management	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
Output 3.2	*# of assessment/inventory of appropriate and feasible (technical, knowledge, capacity, financial, institutional) structural and non-structural measures to improve resilience against climate security risks conducted and disseminated (with information on where, how and to whom it was disseminated)*	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Activity reports*
	# and % of beneficiaries with improved understanding on how to limit post-harvest losses, improve food and non-food processing, conditioning and retailing [disaggregated by gender, location, geography (urban/rural), age group, type of group]	TBC	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*
	# of people getting access to clean energy [disaggregated by gender, location, geography (urban/rural), age group, type of group (e.g., IDPs, pastoralists, farmers, local entrepreneurs), clean energy type (clean cooking / electricity) and if possible, by type of use (residential/commercial/social)]	0	2023	TBC	TBC	TBC	*Baseline and endline*

7. RISK ANALYSIS INCLUDING MITIGATION OF RISKS

UNDP and UNCDF will apply their Enterprise Risk Management systems and corporate tools for risk assessment and entry into risk registers to ensure the project identifies, evaluates, and manages risks at the regional and country levels in order to make more informed and timely decisions. The assessment and management of programmatic risks will notably be addressed as part of assessments under UNDP's corporate policy on social and environmental standards and the commitment to 'leaving no one behind'.

Description	Type	Likelihood/Impact[21]:	Risk Response
Lack of security (armed violence, terrorism, civil unrest, criminality, etc.) limits access to project sites and exposes beneficiaries, staff and assets to threats.	Contextual	L:4 I:4	UNDP strictly follows security advisory of UNDSS, national authorities and further seek the advice of local partners, NGOs and stakeholders to ensure that activities do not expose beneficiaries, staff or implementing partners to unacceptable residual risks. Risk prevention and management strategies will be identified, monitored and evaluated regularly by the UNDP security unit in close collaboration with UNDSS.
Political instability affects ownership of the project by local authorities and activities effectiveness		L:4 I:2	UNDP will involve mainly senior technical level expertise in national government and regional organizations, and local authorities, who are less subject to the impact of political instability.
Climate related disasters		L:4 I:2	A special attention will be brought to the monitoring and forecasting of weather events, notably floods and droughts, for early action. UNDP works closely with and supports the Malian Meteorological services.
Risk of exacerbating conflict and/or insecurity due to strengthening and/or introduction of more inclusive natural resources management mechanisms.	Programmatic	L:3 I:4	One of the objectives of the project is to make local mechanisms for resources management more inclusive and based on intercommunity dialogue, which makes this risk unlikely to happen. However, to make sure that it does not happen, an analysis of existing local resources management systems will be conducted and inform accordingly the action in order to be as inclusive and as culturally sensitive as possible, with an LNOB and do no harm approach.
Risk of increasing of gender inequalities and Gender-Based Violence.		L:2 I:4	The programme will use an inclusive approach that involve community leaders, religious leaders, and women's groups at all levels to mitigate risk related to GBV or exclusion of women. UNDP will carry out awareness raising and advocacy with community leaders.
Exclusion of women, youth, IDPs, Indigenous Peoples, and other vulnerable group in decision making.		L:2 I:4	The programme is guided by the overarching goal of leaving no one behind, and it will develop an inclusive stakeholder engagement plan that ensures vulnerable groups are informed and meaningfully participate and benefit from all the program's offers.
Poorly informed or executed activities could exacerbate tension or conflicts.		L:3 I:4	The programme will conduct a conflict analysis to understand the conflict actors, causes, drivers, and the climate/conflict/security nexus and tailor activities and interventions in a manner that does not introduce new conflict or exacerbate existing conflict dynamics.
Insufficient coordination and lack of synergy between the various actors		L:3 I:3	UNDP will establish a framework for coordination and synergies of implementing partners at both the thematic and geographic levels. The criterion of synergies with other actors and programs will be included in the selection criteria for implementing partners.

[21] Likelihood: Almost certain 5, Likely 4, Possible 3, Unlikely 2, Rare 1; Impact: Extreme 5, Major 4, Moderate 3, Minor 2, Insignificant 1

Risk of financial mismanagement and diversion of resources	Institutional	L:2 I:4	Strict adherence to UNDP's financial procedures will be applied to mitigate risk of mismanagement. Where resources are confided to implementing partners, UNDP will carry out due diligence and spot checks as per its corporate procedures.
Risk of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH)		L:2 I:4	Both UNDP and UNCDF have zero tolerance policies on SEA and SH. All staff undergo mandatory trainings, various reporting mechanisms are in place and institutional policies are discussed with implementing partners.
Insufficient human resources engaged to achieve project objectives		L:2 I:2	In addition to the staff recruited to directly supporting programme activities UNDP and UNCDF already have adequate advisory and implementation capacity at regional level and in Mali that will support this project. UNDP and UNCDF will also conduct rigorous monitoring of implementing partners to ensure they have the require capacity to execute the project.
Insufficient resources to achieve desired scale of intervention		L:2 I:2	This initiative complements already ongoing climate security interventions. UNDP is undertaking resource mobilization efforts at regional and national levels. At the same time, UNDP is exploring complementarity with other actors working across the climate security nexus to enable a scaled-up response

8. INDICATIVE BUDGET

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	Planned Budget by Year			Amount (EUR)
	Y1	Y2	Y3	
Output 1.1:	100 000	0	0	100 000
Output 1.2:	14 352	67 159	66 277	147 788
Output 2.1:	186 762	214 819	147 619	549 200
Output 2.2:	207 000	300 000	200 000	707 000
Output 3.1:	145 000	601 000	85 000	781 000
Output 3.1:	115 000	480 000	200 000	795 000
Management costs	209 587	141 229	186 229	537 045
Total direct costs				**3 667 033**
General Management Support (8%)[22]				293 363
Coordination levy (1%)[23]				39 604
Total cost				**4 000 000**

Please refer to Annex 2 for the detailed project budget and multi-year work plan.

Planned Budget by Year (incl. indirect cost and levy)	Amount (EUR)
Year 1	1 066 476
Year 2	1 968 029
Year 2	965 494
Total	**4 000 000**

[22] UNDP recovers indirect cost at a percentage that is determined by its Executive Board and applied globally across all programmes.
[23] The UN Resident Coordinator System is funded through this 1% levy that is applied across all programmes.

9. MANAGEMENT AND 'MONITORING & EVALUATION' STRATEGY

9.1 Management Arrangements

Project Governance

As per UNDP policy, the project will be overseen by a Steering Committee comprised of the *Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Assainissement et du Développement Durable* (MEADD), the Belgian Embassy in Bamako, Enabel, UNDP, UNCDF, various technical services and beneficiary representatives. The Steering Committee will have overall oversight with project progress and provide strategic guidance and it will convene biannually. UNDP in consultation with the Belgian Embassy will consider options to strengthen synergies and integration of existing and planned climate security projects in Mali. This might include establishing a joint cross-project steering committees for UNDP climate security interventions subject to approval of all stakeholders.

Mali authorities and development partners, notably UNDP, are currently exploring options to establish a thematic technical committee at regional and/or national levels for climate, peace and security interventions. Such as structure would provide technical support and advisory for a number of climate security projects and support actors in developing synergies and complementarities across this emerging thematic.

Funds Management Modality

This project will be implemented jointly by UNDP and UNCDF and respective implementing partners. However, UNDP will be the lead organization and direct recipient of funding and responsible towards the donor. The partnership with UNCDF will be managed under an UN-UN funding transfer agreement through which UNDP transfer funds to UNCDF as per a mutually agreed payment schedule. Each agency will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for funds disbursed. The instalments and reporting requirements, etc., in the funding agreement between the Belgian Government and UNDP will cascade down and be reflected in the UN-UN transfer agreement.

Project Management and Implementation

UNDP and UNCDF will directly be responsible with implementation of project activities with existing advisory and operational capacities. Activities will be coordinated by the Environment and Climate Change Unit at UNDP's country office in Bamako. Already existing positions, not funded by this project, will be responsible for quality assurance and provide strategic advisory and oversight, notably:

- Climate Security Advisor (P4): Oversees the development and implementation of UNDP's Climate, Peace, and Security interventions in Mali, including knowledge exchange and joined-up programming.
- Energy Advisor (P4): Leads on developing UNDP's clean energy portfolio.
- Environment/Climate Change Team Leader (NOC): Supervises the UNDP Environment/Climate Change Cluster and liaises closely with national authorities and technical services.
- Social and Environmental Safeguard Expert (IUNV): Support project team in applying UNDP's social and environmental standards and policies trough assessment and elaboration of management plans.

UNDP's climate security team based in Mopti will provide technical backstopping for certain activities as required, but not be funded directly through this project. Only selected positions in Bamako under UNDP's climate security portfolio will be covered directly by this project:

- National expert with overall coordination and M&E responsibilities (NPSA10 – 100%)
- Programme Associate (NPSA6 – 50%)
- Admin and Finance Associate (NPSA6 – 50%)
- National UN Volunteer (50%)

A number of UNDP's enabling services will support the implementation of the project from the Bamako country office. This includes a under of functional areas, such as field security, finance, human resources, procurement, and administrative and logistical services. The project will contribute to office running cost and support services through Direct Project Cost allocated to the project as per UNDP policy.

For implementation of the LoCAL component, UNCDF will rely on existing positions based in Bamako and not funded by the project:

- UNDCF National Technical Specialist (NOC): In charge of coordination of the mechanism at the national level, dialogue with and involvement of national partners and outreach
- Driver (NPSA2)

In addition, UNCDF will recruit the following staff to support activity implementation and monitoring on the ground in Koulikoro and funded by the project:

- Community Development Expert – Koulikoro (National UNV – 100%)

The UNCDF/LoCAL team in Mali will further benefit from support of members of the LoCAL Secretariat who will provide general oversight and guidance. These positions will not be funded by the project.

- Programme Specialist (P4)
- Operations and Financial management lead (P2)

Third Parties

Various Third Parties, including technical services, local development agencies, local and international NGOs, and private sector entities, agribusiness and clean energy entrepreneurs will be engaged in this project to support activities. The execution of specific activities under each output will be awarded to Third Parties, or Responsible Parties, on the basis of transparent and competitive processes as per rules and regulations of each agency. As such, only mandated government entities are identified in the above project description. The specific NGO and private sector entities are not pre-identified in this proposal, but UNDP and UNCDF already have long-standing partnerships with entities that might be engaged in the implementation of this project.

UNDP and UNCDF will evaluate the previous performance of responsible partners who have already been supporting implementation of other projects. A roster exists with a number of local NGO for which due diligence has already been carried out. Should other NGOs be selected UNDP will carry out micro-evaluations (Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers) and due diligence as per its programme and operations policies and procedures and risk-based management tools. Third parties will be required to satisfy UNDP and UNCDF's financial and narrative reporting requirements and will be subject to regular sport checks in addition to continual dialogue on implementation progress and any challenges. Conditions for transfers

of resources to Third Parties, e.g., cash advances and reporting, direct payment or reimbursement will depend on the assessed financial management capacities of each entity.

Where specific project activities will be supported by service providers, including private sector entities such as agri- and clean energy businesses and consultancy firms UNDP and UNCDF's respective procurement policies and procedures will apply in order to ensure transparent and competitive processes.

9.2 Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored as follow:

Monitoring Plan

Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analyzed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.
Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision-making.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions.
Review and Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures,	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	

	and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.		
Project Review (Steering Committee)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., Steering Committee) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Biannually	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.

UNDP will coordinate and compile annual work plans and narrative reports, coordinate monitoring of annual targets, call and report on Steering Committee meetings, facilitate audits and evaluation, report back to the Steering Committee, and transmit narrative and financial reports to the donor. UNCDF and third parties will be required to provide all necessary input for timely project monitoring.

Evaluation Plan

Where the results framework requires it, UNDP will carry out a baseline study to establish the reference values during the inception phase of the project. The baseline study will take place during the inception phase of the project and the appropriateness of specific methodologies to measure and monitor climate resilience and social cohesion will be considered given then prevailing security context.

An ex-post evaluation will be undertaken in accordance with UNDP evaluation guidelines in order to provide an independent and objective assessment of the overall performance of the project and capitalize on the results achieved to develop good practices. The evaluation will be carried out between six to 12 months after the completion of the project. The purpose will be to assess the relevance of the project design, the coherence of the interventions with other interventions, the effectiveness of the project's performance, the efficiency of its management and implementation as well as its impact and sustainability. Gender and human rights issues will also be analyzed guided by UNDP's Gender Marker, and interviews for the evaluation will be conducted with a balanced, representative sample of key stakeholders and gender groups. Detailed Terms of Reference will be prepared, discussed and endorsed by the donor and key stakeholders before commencement of the ex-post evaluation. An evaluation report, a learning brief and a monitoring/response matrix will be developed and disseminated.

Annex 1: Communications and visibility plan

Communication and Visibility Plan

Objective: *To enhance awareness, understanding, and support for the Climate, Peace, and Security in Koulikoro Region project among stakeholders, the local community, and the national and international public.*

I. Target Audience

- Government Agencies: National and local authorities, civil protection agencies, regional development agencies.
- Communities: Host communities, vulnerable groups, displaced populations, and at-risk communities.
- NGOs and International organizations, particularly organizations working in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and livelihood development.
- Media: local and national, international media outlets, journalists, and influential individuals who can amplify the project's messaging and reach wider audiences

II. Communication strategies

Information Dissemination on Project Achievements

- Regular progress updates will be provided, covering project progress, achievements, challenges, and next steps. These updates will be shared with project partners, stakeholders, and the Belgian Embassy.
- UNDP Mali's and UNCDF's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook, X) will be used to share regular updates, success stories, and visuals. The goal is to engage the public and stakeholders and raise awareness.
- UNDP's and UNCDF's Mali web site and other corporate-level platforms will regularly updated to provide up-to-date information on the project goals, activities, and outcomes. News, blogs, and multimedia content will be featured.

Leveraging the Achievements and Knowledge of the Project

- Workshops will be organized to facilitate knowledge sharing. Experts will be invited for discussions, encouraging knowledge exchange.
- Efforts will be made to promote the publication of articles and case studies based on project achievements and lessons on global platforms related to climate, peace and security and share across communities of practice, e.g., the Climate Security Mechanism.

Ensuring the Visibility of Project Implementation Sites and Actions

- Project signage will be installed at implementation sites, offering information about project goals, funding source, and partners. The logo of the Belgian Development Cooperation will feature along with those of UNDP and UNDCF.
- Visits to project sites will be organized for stakeholders, including government officials, Belgian Embassy, and the media, to provide a firsthand look at project activities, provided the security situation allows for it.
- A short film and a collection of high-quality photographs will be created to showcase project activities, beneficiaries, and success stories. These visuals will be screened at local events and widely shared.

- Regular contact with local and national media outlets will be maintained to secure coverage of project-related events, milestones, and success stories.

III. Social media Presence and result-based communication

The project aims to create a strong online presence, foster community engagement, and effectively communicate the project's objectives, activities, and success stories:

- Maintaining project presence on Belgian and UNDP official channels (twitter, Facebook, X, LinkedIn, medium) to provide in-depth information, feature success stories, and share insights on climate resilience.
- Develop a series of written success stories highlighting individual and community achievements, showcasing the project's impact on reducing vulnerability and enhancing resilience.
- Publish informative articles focusing on specific project activities, such as sustainable agriculture and restoration of natural resources.
- Produce short videos featuring interviews with project beneficiaries, showcasing their experiences, challenges, and successes and documentaries highlighting the project's overall impact, featuring before-and-after scenarios and community testimonials.

IV. Budget

The Communication and Visibility Plan has an annual budget of EUR 10,000, except in the first year where an additional EUR 5,000 has been allocated for launch activities.