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United Nations Development Programme

Country: Rwanda

Project Title: **Strengthening Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability in Rwanda.**

Expected UNSDCF/CPD Outcome(s): By 2029, people in Rwanda, especially the most vulnerable groups have improved livelihoods and benefit from competitive, diversified, and resilient inclusive economic growth that promotes gender equality, sustainable production, and consumption.

Expected CPD Output(s): **Output 1.3:** Natural resources protected and managed to enhance sustainable productivity and livelihoods

Output 1.4: Women-headed households have increased access to clean cooking energy through nature-based solutions

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: **Jan 2025-December 2025**

Implementing Partner: **UNDP**

Responsible Party: **MoE (RGF, METEO, REMA) & MINEMA**

Programme Period: **One year (1)**

Quantum Project Number: N/A

Quantum Output Number: N/A

Gender Marker: GEN 2

Total resources required: **1,370,000**

Total allocated resources: $210,451

- Regular $210,451
- TRAC 2: $800,000
- Other:
  - Donor_____
  - Donor_____
  - Government _____

Unfunded budget: $359,549

In-kind Contributions_____

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NB: The total allocated TRAC 1 amount is $500,000, with $289,549 earmarked for GEF co-finance for ongoing projects number: 00126667, 00101455 and 00106918.

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Brief Description

The overarching goal of this project is to strengthen the climate, environment and natural resources (CENR) sector capacities to leverage financial and technical resources to achieve the sustainable management of natural resources and adapt to climate change. The project is in line with National Strategy for Transformation-2, UNDP Country Programme Document and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) that put emphasis on adaptation and mitigation to climate change, double efforts on environment and natural resources conservation and fosters existing mechanisms to mobilize climate finance at speed and scale.

The specific objective of this PIP is to support CENR to develop a full portfolio document to support the Government of Rwanda's actions to adapt to climate change and safeguarding nature and environment in support of sustainable economic growth and resilient communities. This project will also support the development of Nationally Determined Contribution NDC 3.0 and implement selected pilot initiatives that will be scaled up during portfolio implementation.

This will be carried out in close collaboration with sector ministries, agencies, and other stakeholders/partners through a consultative approach, ensuring alignment with national priorities and the successful achievement of project objectives.

Signed by:

Agreed by:

Fatmata Lovetta Sesay (PhD)

Resident Representative, UNDP Rwanda

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Fatmata Lovetta Sesay
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I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

The Government of Rwanda has made impressive progress over the years in the Implementation of environment and climate policies, resource mobilization, capacity building and more importantly gearing a positive trend on the sectoral thinking of not only considering environment and climate change as for environmental sector alone but rather view it as a cross-sectoral challenge that needs to be addressed using cross-sectoral approach and hence advocating and fostering for the environment and climate change mainstreaming. This is the same reason why key environment/climate change strategies like green growth and climate resilience strategy and nationally determined contributions were developed in sector-centred approach to facilitate and trigger the solutions to existing sectoral challenges.

Despite the environmental and climate resilience improvements of recent decades, the challenges that Rwanda faces today are considerable. Rwanda's natural capital is being degraded by socio-economic activities such as agriculture, transport, industry, and urban sprawl. At the same time, the growing understanding of the characteristics of Rwanda's environmental/climate change challenges and their interdependence with economic and social systems has brought with it increasing recognition that existing knowledge and governance approaches on policy implementation as well as financial resources are inadequate to deal with them.

The purpose of the project is therefore to to strengthen the climate, environment and natural resources (CENR) sector capacities to leverage financial and technical resources to achieve the sustainable management of natural resources and adapt to climate change. This will be done through supporting the implementation of NST2 strategic intervention 3.10 of Building resilience to climate change and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources. The project is also in line with UNDP Country Programme Document and contributes to output 1.3 of ensuring that Natural resources protected and managed to enhance sustainable productivity and livelihoods and contributes also to UNSDCF outcome "By 2029, people in Rwanda, especially the most vulnerable groups have improved livelihoods and benefit from competitive, diversified, and resilient inclusive economic growth that promotes gender equality, sustainable production, and consumption".

This project has 3 main outputs:

Output 1: A full-fledged/ comprehensive portfolio document developed/adopted

To ensure the availability of capable institutions, systems, and human resources, UNDP will continue to support the Government of Rwanda in advancing its agenda on environmental and natural resources management, pursuing pre and post disaster responses and resilience to climate change. In alignment with the National Strategy for Transformation (NST2), UNDP is transitioning from a project-based approach to a portfolio-based approach reflecting a direct linkage with programmatic approach that the government has adopted for national investments. This shift aims to more systematically and comprehensively address current disaggregated and less impactful projects.

Under this output, UNDP will collaborate with the CENR sector and its stakeholders to develop a full portfolio document on nature, energy and climate. The development of the portfolio will be supported by key technical and feasibility studies to provide baseline information which will inform the write up of the portfolio document.

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Planned activities:

- Conduct a needs assessment for nature –based solutions and propose tailored solutions to IDP Model Villages.
- Develop a proof of concept of an AI-powered Application in data analytics of weather and climate information to enhance early warning.
- Carry out a comprehensive study on Loss and Damage related to climate impacts
- Conduct a disaster risk assessment and hazard hotspot, followed by recommendations to strengthen the national multi-hazard early warning system.
- Develop a resource mobilization strategy to support implementation of the nature, energy and climate portfolio
- Development of a full portfolio document on nature, energy and climate

Output 2: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0) developed

UNDP has played a pivotal role in strengthening Rwanda's national capacities for coordinating, implementing, and tracking the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) targets. Through the NDC Support Project, UNDP enhanced the capacity of the CENR sector and key stakeholders to develop a robust monitoring and evaluation (MRV) framework for tracking and reporting on NDC progress. Additionally, UNDP supported NDC sectors in developing project pipelines to mobilize resources for NDC implementation, while also building their capacity to integrate NDC priorities into national strategies and plans.

Under this output, UNDP will support the Government of Rwanda to raise ambition for climate action. UNDP will collaborate with the CENR, UN agencies and other stakeholders to develop NDC 3.0, training and dissemination tools. The planned activities include:

- Support NDC technical review (National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Development of BAU projections, NDC Progress report, among others)
- Support the compilation/write up of the NDC 3.0 document
- Conduct NDC Capacity Building needs assessment & plan (annexed to NDC 3.0 document)
- Develop training modules and Conduct training workshops tailored to different targeted groups
- Develop dissemination plan and awareness materials.

Output 3: Selected pilot initiatives implemented

UNDP supported Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) as Rwanda’s Designated National Authority for the carbon market to elaborate the modalities, guidelines and procedures for the implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement including the carbon registry establishment. The main objective was to set up all requirements to maximize carbon market mechanism opportunities under the Paris Agreement. However, the current carbon registry has had functional limitations concerning the capability to transfer carbon units between account holders. The operationalization of this registry will enable seamless carbon unit registration and transactions, strengthening Rwanda’s participation in the global carbon market and contributing to the effective implementation of the carbon market framework.

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At the same time, Rwanda has made remarkable progress in electrification, increasing household access from **6%** in 2009 to 75% in 2024[1]. However, last-mile connectivity remains a challenge, limiting rural communities' access to essential services. Additionally, 76% of households nationwide rely on firewood for cooking, while 17% depend on charcoal. In rural areas, 93% of households use firewood as their primary cooking fuel. This heavy reliance on biomass has led to severe environmental impacts, including deforestation, soil erosion, and water pollution. It is therefore critical to continue supporting Rwanda's just energy transition agenda, ensuring a shift toward cleaner, more sustainable energy solutions that enhance both environmental conservation and energy access for communities. Addressing these challenges require a comprehensive approach that not only enhances Rwanda's carbon market mechanisms but also supports its just energy transition agenda.

Planned activities are:

i) Review and operationalize a robust carbon registry system with full transactional tracking and international transferability of carbon units, ensuring Rwanda's alignment with Paris Agreement requirements and creating a fully functional carbon market infrastructure.

ii) Support rural communities to have access to clean energy technologies.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The PIP will ensure adequate involvement of national partners and stakeholders - both state and non-state actors in implementing planned interventions from the inception phase until the end of the interventions. The program will largely rely on national expertise and capacities for the implementation of the interventions so that Rwandan stakeholders are empowered to take charge of their own development.

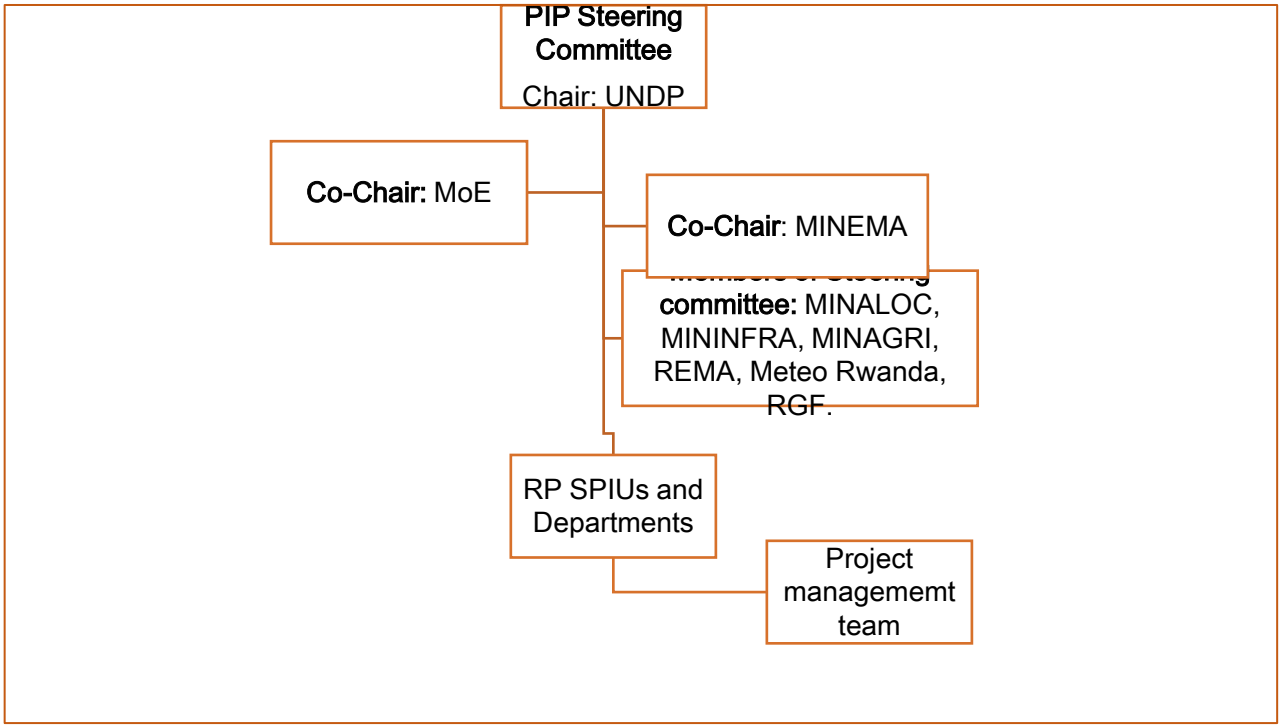
The implementation of the project will be coordinated by UNDP in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment together with Rwanda Green Fund, Rwanda Environment Management authority and Meteo-Rwanda as well as the Ministry in charge of Emergency Management. Specific project coordination and management arrangements are proposed as follows:

- Project leadership and financial management will be provided by United Nations Development Programme
- MoE will provide project coordination through the Project management support team under respective institutions' SPIUs and departments.
- Steering Committee chaired by MoE with representation from MINEMA, Rwanda Green Fund, REMA, Meteo Rwanda, key sector Ministries (Agriculture, Infrastructure, MINALOC, Rwanda National Police, Rwanda Investigation Bureau, CPCIC/NIRDA) and UNDP Country Office.

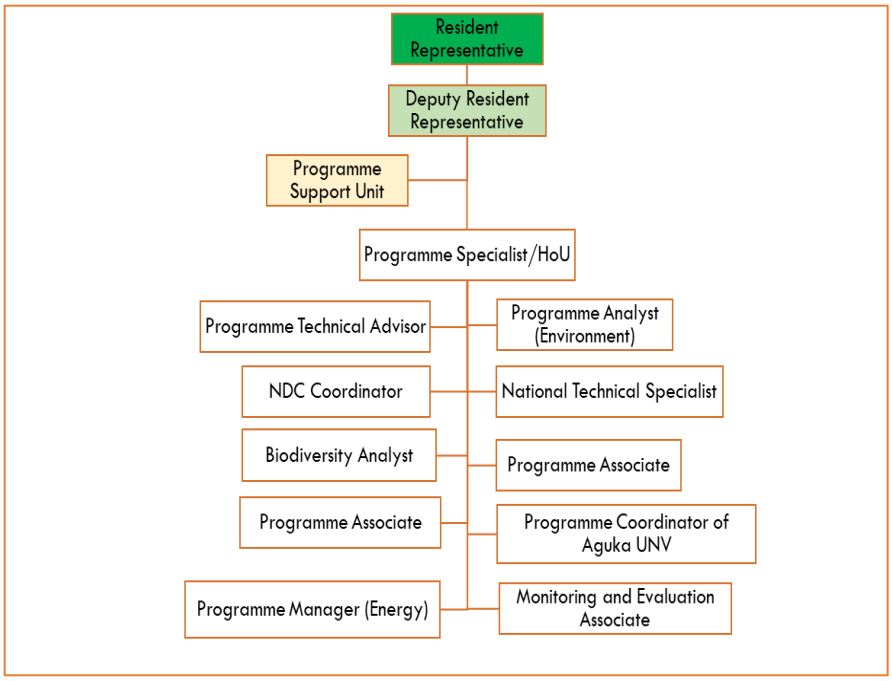
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[1] Ingredients for Accelerating Universal Electricity Access: Lessons from Rwanda's Inspirational Approach

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- Under the overall guidance of the Resident Representative, the project will be coordinated by Programme Specialist/ Head of Unit in the Environment Unit supported by a team of unit experts as shown in the below unit Organigramme.



III. MONITORING

The project activities will be implemented in alignment with UNDP's principles and values. At the project's outset, a meeting will be organized with Responsible Parties to establish a mutual understanding of expected results and the roles of respective RPs. To ensure progress, quarterly reports will be submitted to UNDP for review and feedback, enabling timely adjustments and ensuring activities remain on track.

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In addition, at least 2 steering committee meetings will be conducted to assess project alignment with objectives, identify potential challenges, and support informed decision-making to facilitate successful implementation.

During the implementation of the initiation plan, a full project document will be developed in close collaboration and consultation with all relevant stakeholders. Upon completion of the initiation phase, an Initiation Phase Report will be prepared, accompanied by the finalized project document, providing a robust foundation for the project's next stages.

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IV. WORK PLAN

Period[2]:

EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	PLANNED ACTIVITIES *List activity results and associated actions*	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	*Q2*	*Q3*	*Q4*		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
Output 1: A full-fledged portfolio document developed/adopted **Baseline**: PIP available **Indicator**: Availability of portfolio document **Targets**: Portfolio document developed and approved	Conduct a needs assessment for nature –based solutions and propose tailored solutions to IDP Model Villages.	80,000	10,000	10,000		MoE	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy workshops	100,000
	Carry out a comprehensive study on Loss and Damage related to climate impacts	80,000	10,000	10,000		MINEMA	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, Workshops, Training	100,000
	Develop a proof of concept of an AI-powered Application in data analytics of weather and		45,000	5,000		MINEMA	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, Workshops, trainings	50,000

[2] Maximum 18 months

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	**PLANNED ACTIVITIES** *List activity results and associated actions*	**TIMEFRAME**				**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**PLANNED BUDGET**		
		Q1	*Q2*	*Q3*	*Q4*		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	climate information to enhance early warning								
	Conduct disaster risk assessment hazard hotspot, followed by recommendations to strengthen the national multi-hazard early warning system.	80,000	15,000	5,000		MINEMA	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, Workshops	100,000
	Develop a resource mobilization strategy to support implementation of the portfolio on nature, energy and climate		70,000	10,000		MoE & MINEMA	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, workshops	80,000
	Support the development of a full portfolio document on								

EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	**PLANNED ACTIVITIES** *List activity results and associated actions*	**TIMEFRAME**				**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**PLANNED BUDGET**		
		Q1	*Q2*	*Q3*	*Q4*		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	nature, energy and climate								
Output 2: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0) developed **Baseline**: Roadmap available **Indicator**: Availability of NDC 3.0 document **Target**: NDC 3.0 developed and approved	Support NDC technical review (National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Development of BAU projections, NDC Progress report, among others)	25,000	25,000			MoE	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, workshops	50,000
	Support the compilation/write up of the NDC 3.0 document	30,000	40,000			MoE	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, Workshops, trainings	70,000
	Conduct NDC Capacity Building needs assessment & plan (annexed to NDC 3.0 document)	20,000				MoE	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, Workshops	20,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	**PLANNED ACTIVITIES** *List activity results and associated actions*	**TIMEFRAME**				**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**PLANNED BUDGET**		
		Q1	*Q2*	*Q3*	*Q4*		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	Develop training modules and Conduct training workshops tailored to different targeted groups	30,000	30,000			MoE	UNDP Core resources	Consultancy, Workshops	60,000
	Develop dissemination plan and awareness materials.		20,000	20,000		MoE	UNDP Core resources		40,000
	Participation in high-level events, conferences, and forums to increase collaboration and networking opportunities (COP30, UNGA,			50,000	50,000	MoE REMA RGF	UNDP Core resources	Events, Conferences	100,000

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	**PLANNED ACTIVITIES** *List activity results and associated actions*	**TIMEFRAME**				**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**PLANNED BUDGET**		
		Q1	*Q2*	*Q3*	*Q4*		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	Environment Week, etc....).								
Output 3: Selected pilot initiatives implemented Baseline: Pilot initiatives identified Indicator: Number of pilot initiatives implemented Targets: 2	Review and operationalize a robust carbon registry system with full transactional tracking and international transferability of carbon units.		85,000	15,000		REMA		Consultancy, Workshops	100,000
	Support rural communities (800 households and 30 productive users) to have access to clean energy technologies.		450,000	45,000	5,000	MoE	UNDP Core resources	works, trainings and monitoring	500,000
TOTAL									**1,370,000**