United Nations Development Programme

GCF Readiness Programme Support/ Initiation Plan

Project title: Strengthening National Capacities for the Implementation of the NDC 3.0 in the Republic of Congo	
Country: Republic of Congo	
Management Arrangements: Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) **Implementing Partner**: UNDP CO	
UNDAF/Country Programme Outcome (s): *By 2026, the poorest Congolese populations have access to renewable energy and diversified economic opportunities that create jobs and generate sustainable income in the sectors of agriculture, food security and ecotourism while respecting environmental standards and helping to strengthen resilience to climate change.*	
UNDP Strategic Plan Output: 1.1 The 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and other intergovernmentally agreed frameworks integrated in national and local development plans, measures to accelerate progress put in place, and budgets and progress assessed using datadriven solutions 4.2 Public and private investment mechanisms mobilized for biodiversity, water, oceans, and climate solutions	
UNDP Gender Marker: 2	
Quantum Award ID number: 1399409	**Quantum Project ID number: 01004751**
UNDP-GCF PIMS ID number: 10287	
Planned start date: 28 April 2025	**Planned end date:** 28 July 2027
Brief project description: One of the most important barriers for the effective implementation of the NDC and climate policy in RoC is limited access to climate finance. For example, climate finance needs to the effective implementation of RoC's NDC 2.0 are estimated at 8,190.15 million USD by 2030, and the implementation of the NDC 3.0, currently under development, expected with higher ambition will require more resources According to OECD (2023), climate finance mobilized by RoC was only 440 million USD between 2002-2021 and the African Development Bank indicates that the current climate financing deficit in RoC is estimated at 1083 million USD. The Republic of Congo has a structured institutional framework for addressing climate change, with the Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Congo Basin (MESDCB) serving as the National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The National Climate Coordination Committee (NCCC) ensures multi-sectoral alignment, while the Agency for Environmental and Sustainable Development (AESD) leads implementation efforts. Climate focal points across key ministries support the integration of climate priorities into sectoral plans, complemented by active engagement with civil society and the private sector. The Republic of Congo faces significant challenges in mobilizing climate finance due to limited institutional and individual capacities, including a lack of fiduciary expertise and skilled professionals in climate finance. Opportunities for knowledge exchange are scarce, and no institution currently possesses the capacity to blend	

public, private, national, and international funding. As a result, many NDC project ideas fail to advance into viable concept notes or funding proposals, hindering the country's ability to achieve its adaptation and mitigation goals and transition toward low-emission, climate-resilient development. This Readiness grant seeks to address direct and underlying barriers that hinder access to climate finance at scale in RoC. This will be achieved through four actions, namely (i) supporting the accreditation of The Postal Bank of Congo to GCF, (ii) support the development of GCF Country Programme (iii) capacity building/training of key stakeholders on various climate finance mechanisms, (iv) development of a GCF pipeline of projects, and (v) knowledge sharing and learning. The main beneficiaries of this project will be government line ministries, private sector entities and civil society organizations. Specific attention will be given to vulnerable groups.	
FINANCING PLAN	
GCF grant	US$ 921,091.30 (without 8.5% DP Fee)
Total Budget administered by UNDP	US$ 921,091.30 (without 8.5% DP Fee)
SIGNATURES	
Signature: Adama Dian Barry Resident Representative **Date/Month/Year:**	**Signature:** Mme Arlette Soudan-Nonault Ministère de l'Environnement, du Développement Durable et du Bassin du Congo **Date/Month/Year:**

Readiness and Preparatory Support

Proposal Template

Proposal title:	Strengthening National Capacities for the Implementation of the NDC 3.0 in the Republic of Congo
Country(ies):	Republic of Congo
National Designated Authority(ies):	Arlette SOUDAN-NONAULT
Delivery Partner:	United Nations Development Programme (PNUD)
Date of first submission:	23 December 2024
Date of current submission:	26 March 2025
Version number:	Version #3



GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Section 1. Summary (*indicative* maximum length: three pages)

1.1 Country(ies) submitting the proposal	Country name:	Republic of Congo	
	Name of institution representing NDA or Focal Point:	Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Congo Basin	
	Name of contact person:	Arlette SOUDAN-NONAULT	
	Contact person's position:	Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Congo Basin	
	Telephone number:	+242 06 661 00 58	
	Email:	soudannonaultarlette@gmail.com	
	Full office address:	Immeuble Man'Grite 4e Etage, Plateau-Ville-Brazzaville République du Congo	
	Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:	andeavidalie@gmail.com; ossombimayelaolga@gmail.com	
1.2 Date of initial submission	23 December 2024		
1.3 Last date of resubmission	26 March 2025	**Version number**	V. 3
1.4 Institution that will implement the Readiness grant	☐ National Designated Authority ☒ Delivery Partner		
	Name of institution:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	

	Name of official:	Nancy Bennet
	Position:	Executive Coordinator, a.i Vertical Funds Programming Support, Oversight & Compliance Hub Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS)
	Telephone number:	+1 917-498-7221
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	Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:	patricia.velasco@undp.org claudia.ortiz@undp.org nathaniel.pappoe@undp.org robin.merlier@undp.org adama.dian.barry@undp.org; henry.rene.diouf@undp.org; isidore.agbokou@undp.org bertrand.tessa@undp.org
1.5 Title of the Readiness support proposal	Strengthening National Capacities for the Implementation of the NDC 3.0 in the Republic of Congo	
1.6 Readiness objectives of the proposal	**x** Objective 1. Capacity Building x Objective 2. Strategic frameworks ☐ Objective 3. Adaptation planning[1] x Objective 4. Pipeline development x Objective 5. Knowledge sharing and learning	
1.7 Total requested amount and currency	USD 999,384.06 (including 8.5% DP Fee)	
1.8 Implementation period[2]	24 months	

[1] Please note that for adaptation planning proposals, only the box for objective 3 may be ticked.
[2] The implementation period shall begin on the date the grant is effective.

1.9 Is this request a multiple-year strategic Readiness implementation request?[3]	☐ Yes X No For more information on how a country may be eligible to access Readiness support through this modality, please refer to **Annex 9 of the Readiness Guidebook**.
1.10 Brief summary of the request (maximum length: 500 words)	The Republic of Congo is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, irregular rainfall patterns, and increasing frequency of extreme weather events such as floods and droughts. These changes pose significant risks to key sectors such as agriculture, forestry, water resources, and urban infrastructure, threatening food security, livelihoods, and biodiversity. The country is home to critical ecosystems, including the Congo Basin Forest, which acts as a major carbon sink and supports global climate regulation. However, deforestation, land degradation, and unsustainable use of resources exacerbate vulnerability and reduce adaptive capacity. While the Republic of Congo has demonstrated commitment to addressing climate challenges through its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other policy frameworks, limited technical capacity and financial resources hinder comprehensive action. Strengthening institutional capacities and mobilizing climate finance are essential to enhance resilience and mitigate the impacts of climate change. One of the most important barriers for the effective implementation of climate policy in RoC is limited access to climate finance. For example, climate finance needs to the effective implementation of RoC's NDC 2.0 are estimated at 8,190.15 million USD by 2030, and the implementation of the NDC 3.0, currently under development, expected with higher ambition will require more resources According to OECD (2023), climate finance mobilized by RoC was only 440 million USD between 2002-2021 and the African Development Bank indicates that the current climate financing deficit in RoC is estimated at 1083 million USD. The Republic of Congo has a structured institutional framework for addressing climate change, with the Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Congo Basin (MESDCB) serving as the National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The National Climate Coordination Committee (NCCC) ensures multi-sectoral alignment, while the Agency for Environmental and Sustainable Development (AESD) leads implementation efforts. Climate focal points across key ministries support the integration of climate priorities into sectoral plans, complemented by active engagement with civil society and the private sector. The Republic of Congo faces significant challenges in mobilizing climate finance due to limited institutional and individual capacities, including a lack of fiduciary expertise and skilled professionals in climate finance. Opportunities for knowledge exchange are scarce, and no institution currently possesses the capacity to blend public, private, national, and international funding. As a result, many NDC project ideas fail to advance into viable concept notes or funding proposals, hindering the country's ability to achieve its adaptation and mitigation goals and transition toward low-emission, climate-resilient development. This Readiness grant seeks to address direct and underlying barriers that hinder access to climate finance at scale in RoC. This will be achieved through four actions, namely (i) supporting the accreditation of The Postal Bank of Congo to GCF, (ii) support the development of GCF Country Programme (iii) capacity building/training of key stakeholders on various

[3] Please note that proposals for adaptation planning support (objective 3) cannot be submitted as multiple-year strategic Readiness proposals.

climate finance mechanisms, (iv) development of a GCF pipeline of projects, and (v) knowledge sharing and learning.

The main beneficiaries of this project will be government line ministries, private sector entities and civil society organizations. Specific attention will be given to vulnerable groups.

1.11 List of abbreviations

Abbreviation (alphabetical order)	Meaning
AE	Accredited Entity
AFD	French Development Agency
AML/CFT	Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy
BDEAC	Central Africa States Development Bank
BEAC	Central African States Central Bank
BPPS	Bureau for Policy and Programme Support
BTR	Biannual Technical Report
BUR	Biannual Update Report
CAFI	Central African Forest Initiative
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
CN	Concept Note
CUNSCSL	Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List
DA	Direct Access
DAE	Direct Access Entity
DIM	Direct Implementation Modality
DP	Delivery Partner
EU	European Union
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HCI	Human Capital Index
HR	Human Resources
INFFSD	Integrated National Financing Framework for Sustainable Development
IPCSA	Investment Plan for Climate Smart Agriculture
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LECRD	Low Emissions Climate Resilient Development

LMIC	Lower Middle-Income Countries
LT-LEDS	Long-Term Low Emissions Reduction Strategies
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MEH	Ministry of Energy and Hydraulics
MESDCB	Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and the Congo Basin
NCCC	National Committee on Climate Change
NCSD	National Commission for Sustainable Development
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDP	National Development Plan
NPL	Non-Performing Loans
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
OAI	Office of Audit and Investigations
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PAG	Project Consultative and Advisory Group
PB	Project Board
PBC	Postal Bank of Congo
PMU	Project Management Unit
POPP	Programme and operations Policies and Procedures
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
PSAA	Project-specific Assessment Approach
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Enhancement of Carbon Stocks, and the Role of Conservation
RoC	Republic of Congo
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SECU	Social and Environmental Compliance Unit
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure
SRM	Stakeholder Response Mechanism
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WB	World Bank

Section 2. Situation analysis (*indicative* maximum length: four pages)

2.1. Country's background and context

2.1.1. Overview of Socio-Economic Landscape (summary less than 500 words)

1. The Republic of Congo (RoC), also known as Congo-Brazzaville, is a country located in the western coast of Central Africa to the west of the Congo river. The Republic of Congo (Congo-Brazzaville) is a lower middle-income economy, located in Central Africa, covers 342,000 km2. Its population of 6.1 million people is largely young, with 47% being under age 18. More than half of the population lives in its two main cities — Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire. The country is one of the least densely populated in Africa, with 14.8 inhabitants per square kilometer.

2. Covered mainly by tropical forests, the Republic of Congo is home to one of the largest areas of tropical peatlands, a fragile ecosystem that plays a crucial role in climate regulation. The oil sector accounts for about half of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and 80% of its exports, making it the third largest producer in Sub Saharan Africa. The country also has a wealth of mineral resources that remain largely untapped.

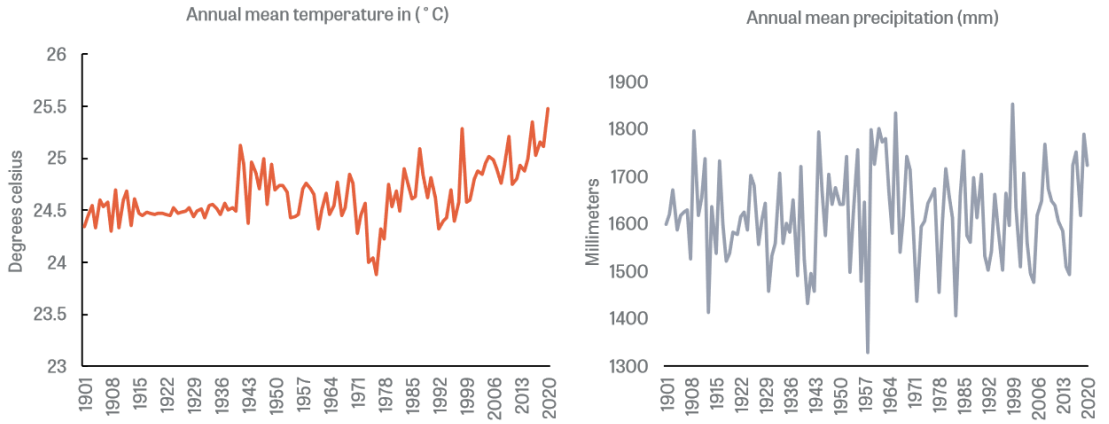
3. The Congolese economy experienced a modest GDP growth rate of 1.9% in 2023 mostly driven by the non-oil sector. Nonetheless, per capita GDP growth remained negative and poverty rate rose to an estimated 46.8% and inflation reached 4.3%. GDP is expected to continue to growth up to 2.1% in 2024 and 3.4% on average in 2025-2026. The country remains in debt distress due to ongoing restructuring and audit of domestic arrears, as well as the recurrent accumulation of temporary external arrears. Although debt vulnerability remains elevated, the debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to decline to 83.3% by 2026 (from 96% in 2023). The economic recovery remains fragile and subject to downside risks, including oil price volatility, weaker global demand, postponed oil investments, tighter financing conditions, adverse weather conditions, and weak reform implementation.

4. The Human Capital Index (HCI) is estimated at 0.42 and below the average (0.48) of its peers Lower Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). The country is making modest improvements in access to health and education but continues to face structural challenges. Infant mortality remains high at a rate of 32 deaths per 1,000 live births. Life expectancy at birth was 65 years in 2019, 7 years below the world average of 72 years and slightly above the average in sub-Saharan Africa (60 years). The underemployment rate of the working population is high, between 25 and 30%. In 2020, unemployment affected 10.3% of the total working population compared to 9.6% in 2019. Unemployment increasingly affects young people aged 15 to 24, who are generally first-time job seekers. By the end of primary education, only 37% and 48% of children achieve the required proficiency level in math and French respectively. Access to electricity stands at 67% of the population in urban areas compared to just 12.4% in rural areas. 74% of the population has access to clean water sources in urban areas compared to 46% in rural areas, despite considerable hydrological resources in the country.

5. Congo's development is guided by its National Development Plan 2022-2026 (NDP, 2022-2026). The NDP is a programmatic framework for government actions aiming to achieve a strong, diversified, and resilient economy for an inclusive growth and sustainable irreversible development. The NDP is structured around six priority pillars supporting economic growth, including agriculture, industry, special economic zones, tourism, digital economy, and housing. Agriculture experienced a steady growth between 2015-2020, rising from 3.7% of GDP in 2015 to 5.2% of GDP in 2020, with an average growth of 4.5% per year. As a percentage of GDP excluding oil, it rose from 4.9% to 7.9%, representing an average annual growth of 6.5%. The share of the secondary sector in GDP fell from 58.1% in 2017 to 25.9% in 2020, mainly due to the hydrocarbon extraction industry, whose share fell from 36.9% in 2017 to 10.8% in 2020. The construction sub-sector, some manufacturing and woodworking industries declined sharply, recording growth averages of -39.5%, -19.5% and -24.8% respectively over this period. Tourism has made a limited contribution to the economy in terms of jobs and wealth creation. The number of tourists has fallen from 229,000 people in 2014 to 158,000 people in 2018.

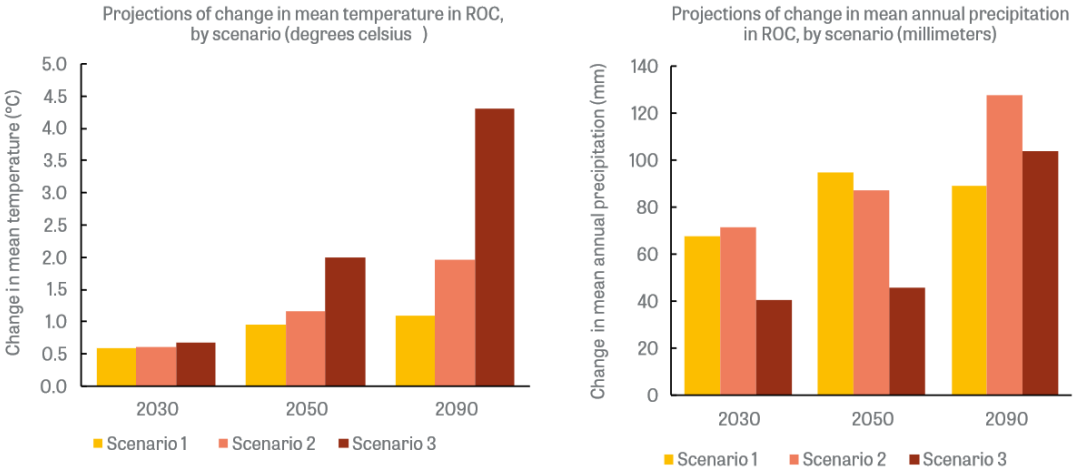
2.1.3 Climate Context

6. **Climate risk and vulnerability.** RoC is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Climatic change is already making RoC hotter, with more erratic and intense extreme rainfall, and these changes are likely to accelerate in coming decades. Between 1901-1910 and 2011-2020, mean annual temperature increased by 0.6°C, along with increases in both average maximum temperatures and average minimum temperatures. Mean annual precipitation has not changed significantly but precipitation has been accompanied by more erratic and extreme rainfall. The intra-seasonal precipitation patterns during the September-November and March-May rainy seasons have fluctuated in recent years, both shortening and lengthening seasons, increasing the unpredictability of rainfall.



Source: World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal.

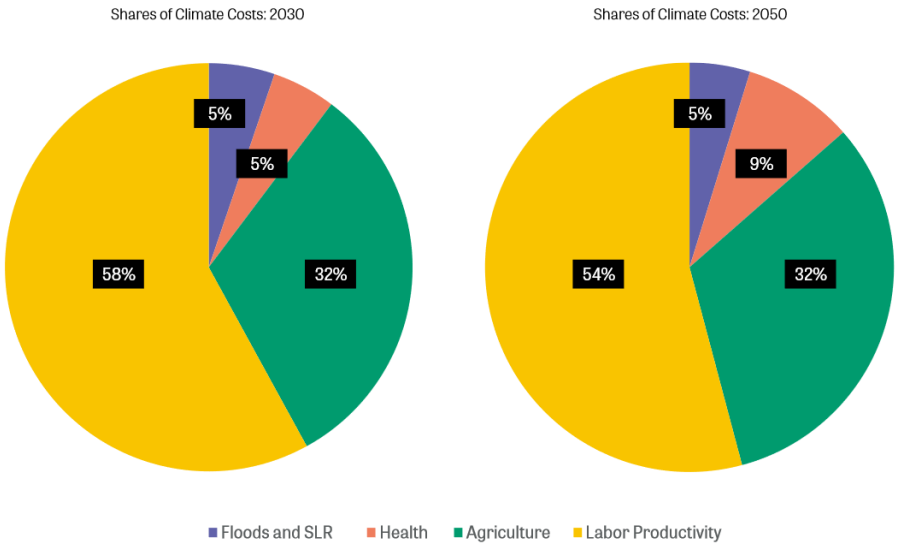
7. The impact on RoC's climate will depend on the trajectory of global emissions. While the impact of global climate scenarios on average temperature in RoC is small in 2030, it will increase over time, and dramatically so by 2090 under the pessimistic scenario. The projections for average annual precipitation are less clear. They show a small increase in 2030, a larger increase in 2050, followed by a smaller increase in 2090.



8. RoC's National Communications identified the following sectors as the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change: i) water resources; ii) coastal zones; iii) agriculture; iv) forestry; v) health and human settlements; and vi) energy. Floods are a recurring natural hazard in RoC, exacerbated by climate change. Many areas are seasonally flooded due to exceptional rainfalls that affect human settlements, agriculture, public health, and biodiversity. Torrential rains since the beginning of 2024 have resulted in the rise of the Ubangi River, the largest right-bank tributary of the Congo River, flooding the Congo River Basin in the Republic of Congo. Heights of up to 5.94m

have been recorded, 30cm higher than the record since 1961. As of 12 January 2024, the floods affected 9 of the country's 12 departments. Changing patterns of precipitation make agricultural activities more difficult and less productive (as well as raising the risk of flooding). The poor are the most affected by such changes, as agriculture is their main source of income. Women are also particularly affected, as they have the poorest quality land, fewer resources, and less access to technology to adapt to climate change impacts. Climate change is expected to exacerbate hunger and malnutrition for households that suffer income loss or crop failure. Congo is vulnerable to diseases that are influenced by climatic factors. The leading and second-leading causes of mortality in the country are from vector-borne and water-borne diseases, respectively. Most notably, malaria is a large concern for the country as it is the leading cause of child and adolescent mortality and absorbs on average 40 percent of health expenditures. Vector-borne diseases are expected to increase in RoC as wetter and warmer conditions become more prevalent.

9. Climate change is a critical threat to poverty alleviation in ROC. Poverty in Congo is characterized by low purchasing power, rural predominance, exposure to environmental risk, population displacement, insufficient access to social and economic services, increasing youthfulness, rapid urbanization, and few opportunities for formal income generation. Like other locations, climate change will hit the Congolese population that already faces social and economic challenges hardest, such as those already living in poverty. There is growing evidence that climate change will cause more harm to those living in poverty because they are more exposed to heat stress and rely heavily on natural resources for survival that are susceptible to destruction by floods and drought (Hope 2009). The rural poor depend heavily on agriculture. In RoC, 52.5 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, of which, 57 percent live in rural areas that rely heavily on agriculture as their primary income source (World Bank 2017). Rural households who lose part of their income due to climate shocks tend to migrate to urban areas in search of better living conditions and opportunities, thus, adding to the already large number of urban poor also facing environmental hazards related to climate (WB 2023, CCDR of the Republic of Congo)



Greenhouse's emission and mitigation information

10. RoC is a carbon net sink with GHG emissions and absorptions estimated to 11,392 $KtCO_2e$ and 32,737 $KtCO_2e$ in 2020. It is estimated that RoC is absorbing around 1.5% of the world's annual carbon emissions, mainly due to its dense tropical forest, which is part of the Congo basin, the world's second largest tropical forest. The revised NDC 2.0 identified five main sectors for GHG emissions, namely energy, waste, industrial processes, agriculture, and forests. In 2017, these sectors represented respectively 6,963 $KtCO_2e$ (67%), 335 $KtCO_2e$ (3%), 107 $KtCO_2e$ (1%), 53 $KtCO_2e$ (0.5%), and 2,947 $KtCO_2e$ (28%) of total GHG emissions (10,405 $KtCO_2e$). Under the Business as Usual (BAU), total GHG emissions will be 13,181 $KtCO_2e$ and 15,279 $KtCO_2e$ in 2025 and 2030 respectively. Energy will represent about 67% of total GHG emissions in 2030 under the

BAU, followed by forests (28%), waste (3%), industrial processes (1%), and agriculture (0.7%). GHG emission reductions from the 2017 baseline are estimated at 5,256 $KtCO_2e$ (39.88%) and 4,919 $KtCO_2e$ (32.19%) in 2025 and 2030 respectively under the conditional scenario. Under the unconditional scenario, they are estimated at 2,253 $KtCO_2e$ (17.09%) and 3,279 $KtCO_2e$ (21.46%) in 2025 and 2030 respectively.

Climate Finance

11. Total climate finance needed for the implementation of ROC's NDC 2.0 is estimated at 8,190.15 million USD by 2030, including 4,395.15 million USD for mitigation and 3,795 million USD for adaptation. In general, RoC has limited capacity to mobilize climate finance at scale. According to OECD (2023), climate finance mobilized by RoC was only 440 million USD between 2002-2021 compared to other countries in the region, such as Cameroon (3550 million USD) and Democratic Republic of Congo (3200 million USD). About 58% of climate finance is provided by bilateral partners and 29% by multilateral funds, such as the Global Environmental Fund and Green Climate Fund. The remaining 13% is coming from multilateral banks, such as the World Bank and African Development Bank. Private sector investment is almost inexistant due to high persistent risk and lack of guarantee. The main financial instruments are debt (58%) and grant (43%). According to the African Development Bank, the current climate financing deficit in RoC is estimated at 1,083 million USD.

12. The Congolese financial sector is small, underdeveloped and highly concentrated. The financial sector is dominated by banks, most of which are private subsidiaries of foreign commercial banks. Concentration in the Congolese banking sector is high, and long-term loans are rare due to the region's underdeveloped capital markets. Despite recent progress, financial institutions provide limited financing to the Congolese economy, inhibiting economic growth and development. The banking system has remained resilient despite the COVID-19 pandemic, but non-performing loans (NPLs) remain a concern. At the same time, private sector credit has been growing and capital adequacy ratios are solid, reflecting improved risk-weighted assets and positive credit and deposit trends. The country has 63 microfinance institutions (MFIs) and eight insurance companies. The financial sector is supervised and regulated at the regional level by the CEMAC regional authorities. WB 2023, CCDR of the Republic of Congo.

2.2. Institutional and Policy Framework

i) Policy Framework

The policy framework on climate change in RoC has evolved significantly over the last decade. Below is a short description of the most important policy instruments.

13. **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 2.0, 2021)**: RoC submitted its first NDC to UNFCCC Secretariat in September 2015. This first NDC sought to reduce GHG emissions by at least 48% by 2025 and 55% by 2035 from 2000 baseline. The revised NDC submitted in 2021 seeks to reduce emissions by 39.88% (17.09%) under the conditional (unconditional) scenario by 2025 from the 2017 baseline. Similarly, RoC commits to reduce emissions by 32.19% (21.46%) under the conditional scenario (unconditional scenario) by 2030 from the 2017 baseline. The NDC 3.0 is currently under development.
14. **National Development Plan (NDP, 2022-2026)**: The government of Congo elaborated the NDP in 2022 as a framework to achieve a strong, diversified, and resilient economy for an inclusive growth and sustainable irreversible development. Chapter 5.4 on economic growth and protection of the environment indicates that the government shall pursue its investments initiated since 2006 to establish the foundation of a green economy. The effective implementation of the NDP is significantly impeded by the precariousness of state budget resources, insufficient planning of priorities, and the weak mobilization of resources from development partners and the private sector.
15. **Integrated National Financing Framework for Sustainable Development (INFF, 2023)**: RoC developed an INFFs as a planning and delivery tool to strengthen planning processes and overcome obstacles to financing sustainable development and the SDGs at the national level. The INFF includes a plan for the mobilization of climate finance integrated within a holistic financing framework from state and non-state resources and structured around innovative climate finance mechanisms, such as carbon markets, green bonds and debt-for-climate swaps.

16. **Forest Policy, 2014-2025**: The forest policy aims to sustainably manage forest ecosystems to promote the green economy, reduce poverty and maintain other ecosystem functions. This policy is structured around the following axes (among others): land use planning and creation of a permanent forest estate; promotion of sustainable forest management and development and forest certification; conservation of biodiversity, development and certification of wildlife and protected areas; promotion of community forestry; promotion of private and local authority forests and protected areas; afforestation and reforestation; development of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs).
17. **The National REDD+ Strategy Investment Plan for the Republic of Congo 2018-2025**. The Investment Plan aims to centralize, channel, and coordinate international, national, public and private funds to **support the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.** This involves structuring a programmatic framework to accommodate both sector-based and enabling REDD+ related investments. **The National REDD+ National Strategy is based on**: i) A cross-cutting lever focused mainly on improving governance and putting in place appropriate policies and measures. This lever is an indispensable enabling support that directly targets the indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation; ii) Programmatic or sectoral levers (forest, agriculture, mining and energy) for the implementation of activities that will reduce emissions from deforestation, forest degradation and maintain/increase forest carbon stocks and sustainable forest management.
18. The Investment Plan is the reference framework for actions implemented over the 2018-2025 period and for emission reductions linked to deforestation, forest degradation and carbon stock increase throughout the national territory. It identifies ongoing activities as well as a portfolio of complementary and diversified activities to support the implementation of the National Strategy. These activities will be financed through existing bilateral and multilateral funding (AFD, EU, IDA-WB, GEF, etc.), and proposed for funding from climate funds including the Forest Investment Program (FIP), the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other multilateral, bilateral donors, and private sector sources.
19. **Investment Plan for Climate Smart Agriculture, (IPCSA, 2021)**: The IPCSA aims to support the adoption of sustainable agriculture in RoC in the face of current climatic shocks. It identifies the first six interventions which must ensure the development of the agricultural sector in RoC, while protecting the forests, notably: (i) development of resilient agroforestry systems for cassava, corn and banana; (ii) improvement of soil fertility and crop fertilization; (iii) improvement of water resource management and aquaculture; (iv) development of access to products, services and infrastructure for resilient food sectors; (v) improvement of the productivity and resilience of agriculture in the savannah and; (vi) development of a climate information and agro-meteorological alert system.
20. **National strategy and Action Plan for disaster risk managemen**t: The strategy has been validated on December 10, 2024. It will be submitted for adoption by the government during the first quarter of 2025. The main objective of the strategy is to significantly reduce human, economic, social and environmental losses linked to disasters. The strategy places particular importance on strengthening capacities to mobilize national, international, public and private financial resources to strengthen prevention and resilience to disaster risks. She identified GCF and other green finance windows among the sources of finance and emphasizes the prioritization of nature-based solutions.

Table 2. Summary of key policy instruments on climate change *(including only the most relevant and of national priority)*

Climate policy/strategy	Key priorities	Alignment with the GCF Readiness
Nationally Determined Contributions, (NDC 3.0, 2021)	Although the NDC 3.0 is currently under development, the key priority sectors for the NDC3.0 for Mitigation are: agriculture, ecosystems, energy, forestry, wastes And for Adaptation (food security, water and sanitation, health, coastal erosion, flooding and landslide protection, waste)	Development of two concept notes, one each in mitigation and adaptation, to mobilize climate finance to address urgent climate needs
National Development Plan (NDP, 2022-2026)	Agriculture and forestry (REDD+)	Capacity building of National Climate Change Commission to effectively support the

		deployment of the NDP in climate change. Development of a concept note related to REDD+
Integrated National Financing Framework for Sustainable Development (INFF, 2023)	Innovative climate finance mechanisms (carbon markets, green bonds; debt-for-climate swaps)	Capacity building of National Climate Change Commission on innovative climate finance mechanisms
Forest Policy, 2014-2025	Land use planning; sustainable forest management	Development of a concept note to mobilize climate finance to support sustainable forest management and land use planning
Investment Plan for Climate Smart Agriculture, (IPCSA, 2021)	Climate smart agriculture	Development of a concept note to mobilize climate finance to support climate smart agriculture
Biennial Transparent report (BTR)/Biennial update report (BUR)	Progress on climate action, mainstreaming climate change in development, NDC 2.0 implementation progress and long-term Low emission Climate Resilient development	The GCF readiness will contribute to build the climate change management and MRV Capacity that will help to regularly update the BTR/BUR.

ii) Institutional Framework

21. **Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and the Congo Basin (MESDCB)**: Through its different directorates, the MESDBC is the environmental authority endowed with the mandate and the technical expertise to develop and support the implementation of national laws and regulations, criteria for environmental good practices, climate change and biodiversity commitments, as well as national strategies and priorities for environmental conservation and sustainable development. MESDCB is RoC's focal point to the UNFCCC and NDA to the GCF and Adaptation Fund.

22. **National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC)** created by the Decree No 2010-729 of November 30, 2010, is an advisory body responsible for monitoring and support for the implementation of the framework convention on climate change and all legal instruments related to this convention, notably the Kyoto Protocol, as well as the study of all scientific and technological questions and others, relating to climate change. The NCCC is chaired by the Minister of Environment and hosts representatives for all ministries, CSOs, and private sector

23. **National Commission for Sustainable Development (NCSD):** Created by decree no. 2011 – 753 of December 7, 2011, the Commission's mission is to assist the government in its sustainable development policy and to ensure the integration of sustainable development concerns into policy, strategies, and action plans. The Commission is chaired by the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and the Congo Basin

24. **Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF)**: The MEF is responsible for implementing government policy as defined by the President of the Republic in the areas of economy and finance. Based on its attributions, MEF appears to be a key actor for the mobilization of climate financing. Indeed, the MEF is overseeing the entire planning and monitoring process related to the implementation of the National Development Plan. This includes among others oversight over development activities related to the achievement of green and diversified economic growth and sustainable development.

25. **Ministry of Energy and Hydraulics (MEH)**: is responsible for the design, implementation and regulation of the national energy and Hydraulics policies. His mandate covers the management of Congo's energy and water resources, including renewable energy, and of electrification in both urban and rural areas. The Law no. 15/2003 of April 10, 2003, established the National Rural Electrification Agency (ANER) under the MEH. The role of ANER, under the direction of the Ministry responsible for electricity, is to ensure the promotion of electrification in rural areas. According to the Law no. 17/2003 of April 10, 2003, the Electricity Sector Development Fund has been established under the MEH. This Fund is intended to finance planning activities, strengthen the

capacities of electricity sector institutions, and promote the development of rural communities and renewable energy sources.

26. **Postal Bank of Congo (PBC)**: PBC was created on March 3, 2012, with an initial capital of 10 billion CFA Francs, 80% of which is held by the Congolese State and 20% by SOPECO. PBC is a full-service financial institution dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of individuals, businesses, and organizations with a goal to provide customers with the best possible banking experience, combining the latest technology with a commitment to personal service that meets customers' ambitions. Two main objectives have been assigned to the PBC: financial inclusion and financing of the economy. Through its Strategic Development Plan (PDS) 2024-2026, the PBC clearly states its desire to place ESG criteria at the heart of these operations and thus contribute to the achievement of the commitments made by the State within the framework of the CDN of Congo and the 2030 agenda on SDGs. The PBC has obtained the ISO 9001:2015 standard on Quality management, the ISO 14001:2015 standard on environmental management, the ISO 45001:2018 standard on the management of Health and Safety at Work (OH&S). For the implementations of these ISO norms, the PBC has adopted the following documents: a quality policy that complies with the requirements of the ISO 9001:2015 standard; an environmental and social policy compliant with ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018 standards; a code of conduct and ethics; a policy for managing conflicts of interest; a procedure for reporting fraud and illegal acts. The PBC is aware that they need to improve their organizational framework with key documents and strategies such as the Environment and social Policy Safeguards framework a gender strategy, climate change and sustainable development policy and strategy and strategy and others required to be an accredited GCF entity. They need also to strengthen their capacity in terms of climate change management and governance, assessment of climate change projects and sustainable development impacts monitoring and evaluation. All these gaps will need to be addressed with this project.

Fiduciary and Administrative Capacity of Banque Postale du Congo (BPC)

27. **Regulatory Compliance & Governance:** BPC operates under CEMAC's legal and prudential framework, adhering to COBAC and BEAC regulations to ensure financial integrity, transparency, and risk management. Internal control mechanisms support compliance with national and regional banking regulations.
28. **Key Governance Structures**
    BPC has established specialized directorates for compliance, risk management, and sustainable development:

    - Risk Management: Identifies and mitigates financial, operational, and climate risks.
    - Compliance: Ensures adherence to regulatory standards, AML/CFT compliance, and oversight mechanisms.
    - Sustainable Development: Integrates ESG principles into operations, aligning with international finance standards.

29. An internal audit function provides independent assessments to strengthen compliance, risk management, and operational efficiency.
30. **Digitalization & Human Capital Development.** BPC is enhancing risk evaluation and compliance through digital systems integrating automated alerts and fraud detection. Staff training supports this transition. Additionally, BPC's leadership participates in international capacity-building programs, such as the **MODEV master's in project management for Development** (co-financed by AFD).
31. **ISO Certifications & Operational Excellence.** BPC is pursuing ISO 9001 (Quality Management), ISO 45001 (Occupational Health & Safety), and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) certifications, with pre-certification for ISO 9001 scheduled for July 2025.
32. **Gap Analysis for GCF Accreditation:** A preliminary assessment identified key gaps:

    - **Limited climate finance experience**, with ongoing engagement with the Climate Commission of the Congo Basin (CCBC) and Congo's NDA to strengthen capacity.

- **Need for an E&S Risk Assessment Framework** to align financial decision-making with sustainability goals.
- **Development of climate finance policies and fiduciary risk management strategies** to meet GCF standards.

33. To address these gaps, BPC is implementing an **Environmental and Social Risk Management System (SGES)**, including project categorization, ESG risk assessment training, and M&E tools. An upcoming IFC audit will further refine institutional readiness.

34. Capacity-Building & Strategic Collaborations

BPC is leveraging multiple initiatives to enhance its institutional capacity:

- **IFC Audit**: A structured review of fiduciary, operational, and risk management practices.
- **Partnerships in Renewable Energy Finance**: Collaboration with **BL-Technology** and Congo's Ministry of the Environment to develop climate finance solutions.
- **GCF Readiness Program & Project-Specific Assessment Approach (PSAA)**: Strengthening BPC's role in financing climate projects.
- **Capacity-Building with CCBC**: Participation in key training programs, including the **NDC Partnership's regional adaptation finance program, IFDD's GCF Procedures Workshop, and 4C Morocco's Climate Finance Masterclass**.
- **Green Finance Framework**: Defining eligibility criteria for climate investments and structuring pilot projects in renewable energy and adaptation.

35 Priority Training Areas for GCF Accreditation. BPC has identified four critical training areas:

- **Fiduciary & Financial Management**: Strengthening financial oversight, risk mitigation, and international climate finance reporting.
- **E&S Risk Assessment & ESG Compliance**: Developing an SGES aligned with IFC and GCF standards.
- **Project Structuring, Monitoring & Impact Assessment**: Enhancing M&E capacity and impact reporting.
- **Climate Finance Product Development**: Structuring green financial instruments, such as sustainable bonds and adaptation finance mechanisms.

35. Integration into BPC's Strategy

Through its collaboration with Congo's NDA and CCBC, BPC aims to:

- Establish a **dedicated climate finance team**.
- Develop a **pipeline of bankable projects** aligned with GCF priorities.
- Engage with **international partners for technical assistance and co-financing**.

These efforts will position BPC as a key player in climate finance in the region, strengthening its readiness for GCF accreditation and access to climate funding opportunities.

2.3. Gender equality analysis

36. Climate change is a major challenge for the future of RoC, significantly impacting women, who play a vital role as guardians of natural resources and ecosystems. For example, women represent 65% of the agricultural workforce in RoC, yet they do not have access to quality resources or land. They are mainly focused on subsistence agriculture and small farms for local consumption and the non-monetized economy, making them more vulnerable to environmental degradation and resource depletion due to climate change. According to the World Bank, climate change will have a major impact on agriculture in RoC, mainly affecting women who own poor quality land and have limited access to adaptation technologies. The World Bank highlights the importance of paying special attention to women, so that they can position themselves in new promising sectors, while overcoming the specific obstacles they face.
37. RoC has taken various measures to combat climate change. However, efforts to integrate cross-cutting elements, such as gender and climate change risk management, into development planning and investment program monitoring are recent. So far, only a few sectors, such as agriculture, forestry, and energy, have made progress with this integration. For example, the updated NDC 3.0 considers considerations related to human rights, health, indigenous peoples' rights, gender equality, and women's empowerment. However, gender mainstreaming in national policies remains primarily focused on improving the efficiency of processes and results, rather than on fulfilling rights-related obligations. In addition, this approach does not consider factors such as age and social class. National policies remain fragmented and sectoral, making it difficult to systematically integrate gender across sectors and at all levels.
38. It is essential to move from approaches focused on specific projects for women to policies closely linked to national strategies for combating climate change and achieving gender equality. It is still difficult to have a system for analyzing the performance of sectoral policies and strategies to highlight structural advances in gender equality and equity. To overcome this challenge, it is crucial to recognize their specific vulnerability and promote gender equality, their increased participation, investment in sustainable solutions, awareness of their problems and recognition of their vital role. It is essential to improve their access to resources, including land, capital, know-how and technology. The inclusion of women in all areas related to natural resources can accelerate the achievement of national development goals. In addition, it is necessary to transform the social norms responsible for inequalities in ecosystem restoration, environmental preservation, and the fight against climate change and its consequences. This may involve reducing domestic tasks, such as fetching water and firewood, as well as improving working conditions for women, even including a new division of labor, prerogatives, and the notion of power between men and women.
39. The implementation of the gender policy in Congo is under the responsibility of the Ministry for the Promotion of woman, the integration of women into development and the informal economy. The ministry executes the policy of the Nation in the areas of promoting woman, the integration of women into development and the informal economy. It ensures support for financing activities relating to the advancement of women and the integration of women into development.
40. Through this proposal, targeted capacity-building activities will enhance women's participation in climate governance, improve their access to resources and technology, and strengthen their role in sustainable natural resource management. It will also promote policies linked to national strategies that aim to transform gendered social norms and reduce systemic inequalities, such as unequal labor division and barriers to economic empowerment. By aligning with the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, the proposal will ensure gender-responsive investments and foster an enabling environment for women to contribute meaningfully to climate action, advancing both gender equality and climate resilience.

2.4 Gaps and Barriers

41. ***Barrier 1: Shortage of experts with the necessary skills and knowledge to mobilize climate finance at scale for the effective implementation of NDC 3.0 priorities.*** RoC is experiencing a significant shortage of experts with the skills and knowledge to mobilize climate finance at a scale for the effective implementation of NDC 3.0 priority measures. This refers not only to skills and knowledge for the design and management of robust GCF projects and programs with various financing instruments (e.g., grant, loan, equity, guarantee, etc.), but also for the mobilization of climate finance from other financing mechanisms, including carbon markets, payment for ecosystem service, green bonds, and debt-for-climate swaps. This shortage of experts significantly reduces the range of opportunities available, yet competitive, that the government can tap on to mobilize

climate finance at scale to achieve its NDC 3.0 goals. Capacity building of key stakeholders on various climate finance mechanisms is therefore critical for them to make optimal decisions on the most appropriate financing mechanism to mobilize to unlock climate finance at scale for the effective implementation of NDC 3.0 measures. The Minister of Economy and finances executes the policy of the Nation in the areas of economics and finance. The Ministry is in charge, among other responsibilities, to propose and implement national policy debt and manage public debt; manage international financial relations; negotiate, conclude and implement programs financial with external partners; participate in the design of the investment policy; search for additional resources for financing the state budget. He is also responsible for coordinating the mobilization of climate finance from the other public and private institutions under the convergence criteria of the Central African States Central Bank (BEAC).

42. ***Barrier 2: Limited fiduciary and administrative capacities of private and public national entities, especially the financial sector, to mobilize and blend climate finance from GCF and other public and private, national and international climate finance windows.*** Limited fiduciary, financial and administrative capacities significantly impede the ability of national entities to get the accreditation needed to directly access climate finance available at the GCF. Right now, there is no national entity with GCF accreditation in RoC. This significantly limits the scale of climate finance mobilized in RoC. Capacity support for accreditation of national entities is therefore essential. RoC has already identified a national entity (Postal Bank of Congo) for accreditation to the GCF. Also, the public and private financial institution, particularly the ministry of finance does not have the required capacity to reform financial policy and the financial system to mobilize, direct and combine financing, This Readiness project will support the accreditation process starting with the Project-specific Assessment Approach (PSAA) pilot initiative, whereby the Postal Bank of Congo (PBC) will be capacitated for accreditation at the project level. This capacity building will also aim at supporting the capacity building of the Ministry of Economy and Finance to better coordinate and lead the climate finance mobilization, including from the national accredited entities.
43. ***Barrier 3: Limited maturation of NDC priority interventions into concept notes and fully-fledged funding proposals.*** The development of the NDC 3.0 is scheduled to be launched according to the MEDDBC, during the first quarter of 2025. This is the same for the BUR and BTR for which the first draft is not yet available. The second generation of NDC 2.0 (2021) of RoC identified 11 priority adaptation ideas and 31 mitigation measures to achieve the adaptation and mitigation goals. Three years later, none of these priority ideas/measures evolved to a concept note or matured into a fully-fledged funding proposal, the foundation for their effective implementation. In fact, there is little knowledge of and experience on the process of developing Concept notes and funding proposals for the GCF in RoC. Without adequate in-country capacity for driving GCF pipeline development (technical capacity to drive the development itself, or adequate technical knowledge to be able to liaise with and coordinate with external partners), RoC is overtly reliant on external development partners to develop concept notes and funding proposals that are at a quality standard required by the GCF. This Readiness proposal will support capacity building of local stakeholders for the formulation of project concept notes and funding proposal (see Barrier 1), while also mobilizing the international expertise for knowledge sharing and learning.
44. ***Barrier 4: Limited opportunities for knowledge sharing and learning.*** Most stakeholders in RoC have only a limited exposure to knowledge sharing in the context of climate finance whether it is at regional or international levels. Furthermore, there are limited knowledge products available to support training, capacity, and self-learning on various aspects of climate finance. This Readiness proposal will address this barrier by supporting South-South and North-South experience sharing on climate finance for NDC 3.0 implementation, while also supporting the development of a mechanism for developing, collecting, and sharing various knowledge products to support continued learning by various stakeholders.

2.5 Problem statement

45. ROC has limited capacity both at institutional (fiduciary, financial and administrative capacities) and individual levels to mobilize climate finance at scale to develop and implement transformative projects and programs addressing NDC priority interventions. There is a shortage of experts, most of them ill-equipped and skilled to seize the various opportunities available in the climate finance domain. There are limited opportunities for knowledge and experience sharing and learning from the south-south and north-south perspectives. There is no institution with the fiduciary capacity needed for mobilizing and blending public, private, national and international climate finance from the GCF and other climate finance opportunities. Most of the project ideas identified in the NDC 2.0 fail to mature into concept notes and fully-fledged funding proposal ready for financing. These

barriers significantly impede the capacity of the country to mobilize climate finance at scale to achieve the NDC 3.0 adaptation and mitigation goals and put the Congo Republic in the pathway of low emission and climate resilient growth and development.

2.6 Beneficiaries

46. **Climate finance stakeholders**: The Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and Congo Basin (MEDDBC-MESDBC), the Ministry of Economy and Finance and other key national institutions such as the ministries of finance, energy and hydraulics, budget, agriculture, planning, Forestry, Tourism, civil society organizations and the private sector) will be trained in climate finance. At this stage, many of these stakeholders have not yet been identified and mapped. Through this Readiness proposal, key climate finance programming stakeholders beyond the NDA will be mapped out in detail, to ensure that these stakeholders can be readily engaged for climate finance programming.

47. **Concept Note beneficiaries**: Three concept notes will be developed from existing project ideas. The project proponents are the immediate beneficiaries, expected to be government ministries with mandate on adaptation, mitigation, and finance. Beyond this Readiness proposal, when the concept notes are taken forward into full proposals and implemented as projects, the ultimate beneficiaries will be the populations, their livelihoods and economy, and the ecosystems in RoC – depending on the scope of the chosen project ideas for concept notes.

48. **Postal Bank of Congo**: The Postal Bank of Congo will be supported on different aspects of fiduciary and administrative capacity building for both project-level and institutional level accreditation at the GCF and readiness to other climate finance windows.

49. **Ministry for the Promotion of Women, the Integration of Women in Development, and the Informal Economy**: The gender-responsive and socially inclusive approach of this Readiness proposal will empower the gender line ministry in RoC to engage in climate finance programming in ways that promote equality, social inclusion, and social protection and in the medium-to-longer term benefit both men and women (via enhanced gender equality).

2.7 Stakeholder engagement

50. The Readiness proposal was developed jointly by the NDA (MESDCB) and UNDP technical team, in close collaboration with the Postal Bank of Congo, the national climate change committee (CNCC). A working group was established with technical experts from the MESDCB, UNDP and various other key stakeholders (e.g., Postal Bank of Congo). Several group meetings were held to systematize the gaps and barriers related to the Readiness request objective, and inputs from past and undergoing activities in the framework of the sustainable, green and climate finance agenda of the country were collected. The project activities to address the gaps identified were designed within the working group, with clear roles by the participants to promote and implement them once the Readiness request is approved.

2.8 Synergies and Complementarity

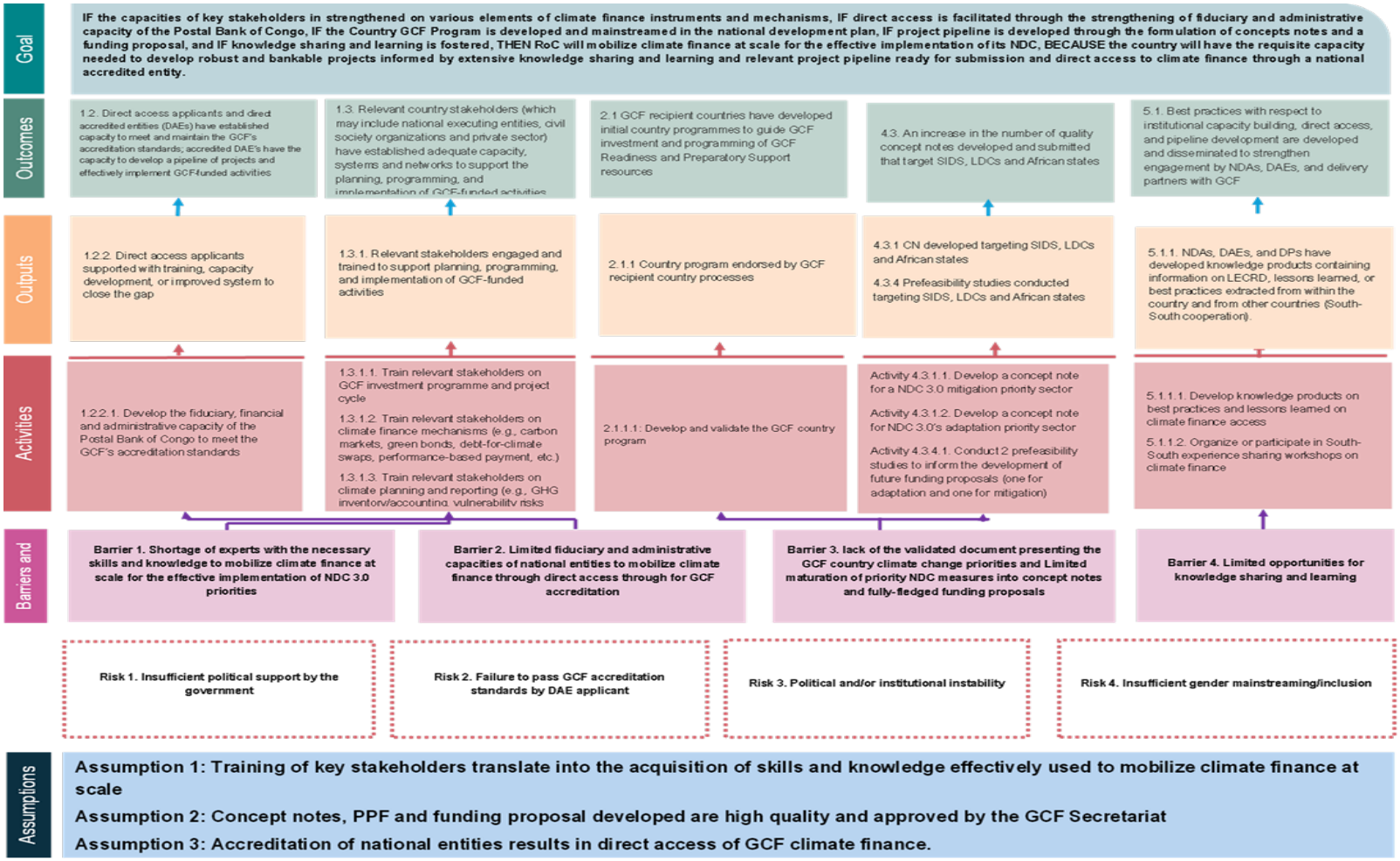
Details of Readiness grants in the country (date of approval and implementation status/period, DP)	Objectives and key results expected / delivered	Synergies and Complementarities	Key implementation challenges and learnings
Grant reference: FP159 **Title: PREFOREST CONGO - Project to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from forests in five departments in the Republic of Congo** **Approved budget: USD $46.6M**	**Objective**: To reduce carbon emissions, while also providing important adaptation co-benefits, focusing its action on three deforestation and forest degradation hotspots **Expected results**: 6.72 million tons of CO_2e emissions reduced over the eight-year period of project implementation;	Concept notes and funding proposal developed under this Readiness proposal will build on lessons learned and best practices from the implementation of PREFOREST-Congo, while also filling potential gaps in terms of project interventions.	N/A

Duration: 117 months (Mar. 2021 – Nov. 2029) **Delivery partner: FAO**	vulnerability reduced, and adaptive capacity increased for approximately 41,373 direct beneficiaries (35% women) and 870,649 indirect beneficiaries5 (35% women)		
Grant reference: N/A **Title: Support to the Republic of Congo's GCF Focal Point and his team to strengthen their coordination capacities and to undertake consultations and studies in the forest and land use sector** **Approved budget: USD $617,000** **Duration: 12 months (Jun. 2017 – Jun. 2018)** **Delivery partner: FAO**	**Objective**: To strengthen the GCF cell and its capacities to coordinate GCF efforts in the country, with a particular focus on the forestry and land use sector. **Expected results**: Country institutional capacity strengthened; Stakeholder engaged in consultative processes; Access to finance facilitated	This GCF Readiness project will complement the capacity building of the GCF Focal point and its teams by providing them additional capacity required to ensure that forest and land use sector activities are well aligned with the GCF country program that will be developed under this project, the CDN. Furthermore, it will develop their capacity in mobilizing climate finance to support consultations and resources in the forest and land use resources and other key priorities for the CDN.	N/A
Grant reference: N/A **Title: Supporting the Creation of "REDD+ Catalytic Fund" pipeline of projects (Multiple countries)** **Approved budget: USD $499,970** **Duration: 18 months (Oct. 2020 – Mar. 2022)** **Delivery partner: COMIFAC**	**Objective**: To build a pipeline of bankable REDD+ projects which does not exist at the time being. **Expected results**: Investment fund and instruments provided to public donors wishing to access this pipeline	The readiness project will build the capacity of the key stakeholders to mobilize resources for the REDD+ investment plan and contribute to the REDD+ Catalytic Fund. It will allow also to coordinate the REDD+ investment plan with the GCF Country program	N/A
Grant reference: N/A **Title: Readiness Support for the Africa Union Multi-Country Program to Accelerate Water and Climate Resilience Investments through the Africa Water Investment Programme (AU- AIP Multicounty GCF Readiness Project)** **Approved budget: USD $6,164,053 (Congo USD $299,401)** **Duration: 24 months (Feb. 2024 – Jan. 2026)** **Delivery partner: Global Water Partnership Southern Africa NPC**	**Objective**: To strengthen capacities for climate-resilient planning for the water sector **Expected results**: Capacity for climate finance programming and Direct Access enhanced; Strategic frameworks for climate-resilient investment planning for water management enhanced through the development of Water Investment Programmes; Country pipelines advanced through Concept Note development; Continental platform for knowledge management developed	The beneficiaries of the climate finance capacity building of this Readiness proposal include the ministry of energy and hydraulics and the key actors of the water sector. This readiness project will therefore contribute to strengthen Congo's capacity in mobilizing resources for integrated water resources climate resilient management.	N/A

51. The project will be implemented in close synergy with Climate Promise 2025 planned activities, notably the development of Long-Term Low Emissions Reduction Strategies (LT-LEDS) and BTR.

Section 3. Theory of change (ToC) (indicative maximum length: three pages)

3.1. Theory of Change – Diagram



3.2. Theory of Change – Narrative

52. **IF** the capacities of key stakeholders in Congo are strengthened on various elements of climate finance instruments and mechanisms, **IF** direct access to GCF and other climate finance windows is facilitated through the strengthening of fiduciary, financial and administrative capacity of the Postal Bank of Congo, **IF** a GCF Country program is developed and mainstreamed in the national development plan, **IF** a project pipeline is developed through the formulation of concept notes and a funding proposal, and **IF** knowledge sharing and learning is fostered, **THEN** the RoC will mobilize climate finance at scale for the effective implementation of its NDC 3;0, **BECAUSE** the country will have the requisite capacity needed to develop, submit and implement robust and bankable projects informed by extensive knowledge sharing and learning and r and subsequent direct access to climate finance through a national accredited entity.

Outcome	Output	Activities	Gap/Barrier
Outcome 1.2. Direct access applicants and accredited entities (DAEs) have established capacity to meet and maintain the GCF's accreditation standards; accredited DAE's have the capacity to develop a pipeline of projects and effectively implement GCF-funded activities	**Output 1.2.2.** Direct access applicants supported with training, capacity development, or improved system to close the gap	**Activity 1.2.2.1**. Develop the fiduciary and administrative capacity of the Postal Bank of Congo to meet the GCF's accreditation standards.	**Barrier 2**: Limited fiduciary and administrative capacities of national entities to mobilize climate finance through direct access through GCF accreditation
Outcome 1.3. Relevant country stakeholders (which may include executing entities, civil society organizations and private sector) have established adequate capacity, systems, and networks to support the planning, programming, and implementation of GCF-funded activities	**Output 1.3.1.** Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming, and implementation of GCF-funded activities	**Activity 1.3.1.1.** Train relevant stakeholders on GCF investment programme and project cycle **Activity 1.3.1.2.** Train relevant stakeholders on climate finance mechanisms (e.g., carbon markets, green bonds, debt-for-climate swaps, performance-based payment, etc.) **Activity 1.3.1.3.** Train relevant stakeholders in climate planning and reporting (e.g., GHG inventory/accounting, vulnerability risks assessment and reduction, etc.)	**Barrier 1.** Shortage of experts with the necessary skills and knowledge to mobilize climate finance at scale for the effective implementation of NDC priorities
Outcome 2.1: GCF recipient countries have developed initial country programmes to guide GCF investment and programming of GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support resources	**Output 2.1.1:** Country programmes endorsed by GCF recipient country processes	**Activity 2.1.1.1:** Develop and validate the GCF country program	**Barrier 3.** Limited maturation of priority NDC measures into concept notes and fully-fledged funding proposals

Outcome	Output	Activities	Gap/Barrier
Outcome 4.3. An increase in the number of quality concept notes developed and submitted that target SIDS, LDCs and African states	**Output 4.3.1.** Concept notes for priority sectors developed with support of the RPSP for submission to the GCF	**Activity 4.3.1.1.** Develop a concept note for a NDC 3.0 mitigation priority sector	**Barrier 3.** Limited maturation of priority NDC measures into concept notes and fully-fledged funding proposals
		Activity 4.3.1.2. Develop a concept note for NDC 3.0 adaptation priority sector	
	Output 4.3.4. Prefeasibility studies conducted	**Activity 4.3.4.1.** Conduct 2 prefeasibility studies to inform the development of future funding proposals (one for adaptation and one for mitigation)	
Outcome 5.1. Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDAs, DAEs, and delivery partners with GCF	**Output 5.1.1.** NDAs, DAEs, and DPs have developed knowledge products containing information on LECRD, lessons learned, or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries (South-South cooperation).	**Activity 5.1.1.1.** Develop knowledge products on best practices and lessons learned on climate finance access	**Barrier 4.** Limited opportunities for knowledge sharing and learning
		Activity 5.1.1.2. Organize or participate in South-South experience sharing workshops on climate finance	

Outcome 1.2. Direct access applicants and accredited entities (DAEs) have established capacity to meet and maintain the GCF's accreditation standards; accredited DAE's have the capacity to develop a pipeline of projects and effectively implement GCF-funded activities

Output 1.2.2. Direct access applicants supported with training, capacity development, or improved system to close the gap

An important measure to mobilize climate finance at scale in RoC is through the accreditation of national entities to support direct access. The Government of RoC selected the Postal Bank of Congo (PBC) as one of the first national entity to receive support for GCF accreditation. PBC is already an important bank in the finance ecosystem of the RoC and the Congo Basin in general, working closely with regional institutions such as the Central Africa States Bank (BEAC) and Central Africa States Development Bank (BDEAC). PBC's institutional capacities, including fiduciary, and administrative capabilities are already solid, but will need to be further developed to meet GCF accreditation standards (***activity 1.2.2.1***.). The approach is to start with project-level accreditation (Project-specific Assessment Approach, PSAA), then later upgrade to institutional accreditation. This activity will address ***Barrier 2*** and will result in a more direct access to climate finance from GCF. The capacity and training activities will focus on fiduciary risk management and financial transparency.

53. **Activity 1.2.2.1. Develop the basic and specialized fiduciary standards of the Postal Bank of Congo to meet the GCF's accreditation standards**

54. To strengthen the Postal Bank of Congo's (BPC) capacity to meet the Green Climate Fund (GCF) accreditation standards, this activity will focus on enhancing the institution's fiduciary and administrative frameworks. The initiative will provide targeted training and technical assistance to improve BPC's compliance with both the GCF's basic fiduciary requirements—such as financial management, procurement, and transparency—and its specialized fiduciary standards, including grant award mechanisms, on-lending, and blended finance structuring. The capacity building will also target strengthening the Social, Environmental and Governance policy. This includes the

improvement of the environmental and social screening Procedures, the inclusion (gender, youth, people with disability) strategy and their mainstreaming in the bank operations and management.

Deliverable: project-level accreditation assessment and report.

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

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

55. Capacity building of key stakeholders is a cornerstone and continuous undertake for effective access to climate finance. So far, capacity building activities of key stakeholders on climate finance opportunities have been sparse and irregular, especially in terms of the thematic areas covered, timing and the nature of participants. The project will provide a more comprehensive, inclusive and gender sensitive training program on climate finance, covering not only GCF programming whereby stakeholders are capacitated in GCF project cycle (*activity 1.3.1.1.*), but also other innovative climate finance mechanisms, including carbon markets, green bonds, performance-based payment/payment for ecosystem services, debt-for-climate swaps (*activity 1.3.1.2.*), and linking with GCF financing mechanism. Additionally, the project will train key stakeholders on key climate finance issues related to planning and reporting, including GHG inventory/accounting, vulnerability risks assessment and reduction, etc. (*activity 1.3.1.3.).* These activities will directly cope with *Barrier 1* and will contribute to a large increase of local expertise with the requisite skills and knowledge to effectively mobilize climate finance from a variety of financing mechanisms.

56. **Activity 1.3.1.1. Train relevant stakeholders on GCF investment programme and project cycle.** For this activity**,** which focuses on training relevant stakeholders on the GCF investment programme and project cycle, a diverse group of approximately **30-40 participants** (at least 1/3 women) will be engaged. This will include **5-7 representatives from the Ministry in Charge of Environment hosting the National Designated Authority (NDA) or Focal Point**, ensuring that those directly responsible for coordinating GCF engagement strengthen their understanding of project development and approval processes. Additionally, **8-10 officials from key ministries in charge of** Finance, Forestry Economy, and Planning will be trained to enhance institutional capacity in structuring climate projects that align with national priorities. Given their role in implementing sector-specific climate initiatives, **6-8 representatives from sectoral ministries** (e.g., Energy and water, Transport, Agriculture, Oil and Gas, Local Development, Industry) will also participate. To support private sector engagement, **4-6 representatives from financial institutions and businesses** will be invited (timber industry, alongside **4-5 participants from accredited and direct access entities (DAEs)** or in process of accreditation working on GCF-funded projects. Finally, **3-5 representatives from academia** (Environmental Institute of the Denis Sassou Nguesso University and the Economy Faculty of the Marien Ngouabi University)**, civil society organizations -CSOs, and NGOs** (selected from the national coordination of NGOs) will be included to ensure an inclusive and participatory approach to project design and implementation.

57. Activity 1.3.1.2. Train relevant stakeholders on climate finance mechanisms (e.g., carbon markets, green bonds, debt-for-climate swaps, performance-based payment, etc.)

For this activity, which aims to build capacity for climate finance mechanisms, a slightly larger group of **40-50 stakeholders** (at least 1/3 women) will be engaged, reflecting the technical and financial expertise required. This includes **10-12 officials from the Ministries of in charge of Finance Budget, Economy, and Planning**, responsible for designing national financial policies that enable access to green finance. In addition, **6-8 representatives from central banks, financial regulators, and development banks** will be trained on integrating climate risk considerations into financial frameworks. Given their critical role in mobilizing climate finance, **8-10 representatives from private sector entities)** including commercial banks, investment firms, and industry associations (UNICONGO and UNOC)—will be included to explore opportunities for innovative financing, such as green bonds and performance-based payments. A further **5-7 representatives from stock exchanges (Premium Capital securities, L'Archer Capital** Securities and LCB Capital)**, capital market authorities, and trade associations** will be trained on climate-related

financial instruments. To ensure climate finance mechanisms are effectively linked with national policies, **6-8 officials from ministries in charge of environment, forest economy, oil and gas, energy and hydraulics, industry, special economic zones, ports authorities and climate policymakers** will participate, alongside **5-6 representatives from CSOs and NGOs** who will advocate transparency, accountability, and equitable access to finance.

58. **Activity 1.3.1.3. Train relevant stakeholders on climate planning and reporting (e.g., GHG inventory/accounting, of vulnerability risks and reduction, etc.)**

For Activity 1.3.1.3, focusing on climate planning and reporting, 30-40 stakeholders (at least 1/3 women) will be trained. Given the technical nature of this activity, 8-10 officials from the Ministries in charge of Environment, Energy, and Planning, other will be included, ensuring strong national-level capacity to oversee climate reporting frameworks. Additionally, 5-7 representatives from research institutions will be engaged to support data collection and analysis for GHG inventories, vulnerability assessments, and adaptation tracking. To enhance the implementation of monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems, 6-8 specialists from GHG inventory teams (National MRV), national MRV experts, and consultants will participate. Finally, 5-6 representatives from CSOs, indigenous organizations, and community-based groups will ensure that locally relevant adaptation measures are incorporated into national reporting efforts.

59. In all three activities, gender balance and inclusivity will be emphasized to ensure that women, youth, and marginalized groups are meaningfully engaged in climate finance, planning, and project development. These training sessions will be designed to be interactive, combining theoretical knowledge with practical case studies and hands-on exercises to ensure that stakeholders can apply their learning effectively in their respective roles.

Deliverables: Workshop/training reports/minutes. List of participants disaggregated information by gender.

Outcome 2.1: GCF recipient countries have developed initial country programmes to guide GCF investment and programming of GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support resources

Output 2.1.1: Country programmes endorsed by GCF recipient country processes

60. Among the reasons for why Congo access to GCF resources is still very weak, we can include the lack of a country endorsed GCF vision and programmatic document presenting the countries climate change priorities aligned with the national development plan, the NDC 3.0 currently under development and expected to be completed by September 2025, and other key sustainable development policies and strategies of the environment and natural resources management, energy and water, forestry, tourism, industry, agriculture, women empowerment, hydrocarbon sectors. The project will develop a country GCF program aligned with the country's sustainable development framework and that will be endorsed by the country. The development process will fully involve key representatives of all the sectors, the communities including the indigenous people, the 15 regions of Congo, the private sector and the civil society.

Activity 2.1.1.1: Develop and validate the GCF country program.

61. Developing the **GCF Country Program** is a critical process that ensures the alignment of national climate priorities with the funding opportunities provided by the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)**. This process will be conducted through a **structured, participatory approach**, engaging key stakeholders to develop a comprehensive, country-driven, and strategic framework for accessing GCF resources. The following sub activities will be undertaken:

- Conduct an Initial Assessment. Review national climate policies, strategies, and past GCF-funded projects. Identify climate finance gaps, priorities, and investment opportunities. Analyzing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0), the Long-Term Strategy (LTS), the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and other relevant documents.

- Organize 4 Focus Group Consultations Each engaging –20-25 stakeholders (at least 1/3 women):
  - government: different ministries and key public agencies
  - private sector including financial institutions
  - civil society, community-based organization and indigenous people
  - Development partners including all UN agencies

- Identify priority investment areas, barriers, and opportunities for GCF funding.
- Develop the draft GCF Country Program: Define project pipelines, institutional roles, and financing strategies. Align with GCF investment criteria and national development goals.
- Conduct a Multi-Stakeholder Validation Workshop. Gather 30-50 key stakeholders (at least 1/3 women) to review and refine the draft. Facilitate panel discussions and breakout sessions for feedback.
- Finalize and Validate the Country Program using the latest GCF Country Programme Guidelines Incorporate feedback and secure official approval.

Deliverables: A GCF Country program endorsed by the country. Workshop/training reports/minutes. List of participants disaggregated information by gender.

Outcome 4.3. An increase in the number of quality concept notes developed and submitted that target SIDS, LDCs and African states

Output 4.3.1. CN developed targeting SIDS, LDCs and African states

62. This output aims to strengthen the Republic of the Congo's capacity to access climate finance by developing high-quality concept notes aligned with the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) and the GCF programming framework.

Activity 4.3.1.1. Develop a concept note for the NDC 3.0 mitigation priority sector and Activity 4.3.1.2. Develop a concept note for NDC 3.0 adaptation priority sector.

63. Like other Congo Basin countries, RoC has a very limited pipeline of GCF projects. Until now, only one funding proposal and three GCF Readiness & Preparatory Support have been approved. Most initiatives don't mature from the project idea level. This has significant adverse implications in respect to the ability of RoC to mobilize climate finance to achieve its national and international commitments, such as its NDC 3.0. To address this concern, the project will support the graduation of priority interventions from the update NDC 3.0 into quality concept notes, one each on mitigation (***activity 4.3.1.1.***) and adaptation (***activity 4.3.1.2.***).

64. The stakeholder consultation and validation process are a critical component of ensuring that the concept notes developed under this GCF Readiness initiative reflect national priorities, have broad ownership, and are aligned with key strategic frameworks such as the Republic of the Congo's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) and the GCF programming framework. Two workshops/meetings are planned for validation and consultation.

Deliverables: One concept note for adaptation and one concept note for mitigation. Workshop/training reports/minutes. List of participants disaggregated information by gender.

65. **Output 4.3.4. Prefeasibility studies conducted**

66. Activity 4.3.4.1. Conduct 2 prefeasibility studies to inform the development of future funding proposals (one for adaptation and one for mitigation).

67. As a complement to activities under Output 4.3.1., the project will conduct prefeasibility studies for the two concept notes (one for adaptation and the other for mitigation) to lay the foundation for the formulation of fully-fledged funding proposals (***activity 4.3.4.1.***). The prefeasibility studies will provide a global perspective about the relevance of the interventions foreseen both from the national context and fitness with GCF investment framework.

Activities under Output 4.3.1 and Output 4.3.4 above will target the ***Barrier 3*** and translate into a vivid and dynamic GCF portfolio of quality and bankable projects ready for financing.

Deliverables: 2 pre-feasibility study reports, one each for mitigation and adaptation concept notes

68. In implementing these activities, the submission of the Concept Notes (CNs) along with the associated pre-feasibility studies to the GCF Secretariat is planned before the grant closure to ensure any feedback from the GCF can be addressed.

Output 5.1.1. NDAs, DAEs, and DPs have developed knowledge products containing information on LECRD, lessons learned, or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries (South-South cooperation)

Knowledge sharing is essential for mutual exchange and learning, replication and upscaling of good practices and lessons learned, including in respect to access climate finance. Knowledge sharing on climate finance access in RoC has so far not been sufficiently embedded into climate planning and programming due among others to limited availability of knowledge products and opportunities for South-South and South-North exchanges. The project will develop several knowledge products for learning and knowledge exchange (***activity 5.1.1.1.***), consistently with capacity building activities under Output 1.3.1. Additionally, the project will support the participation of key stakeholders in South-South and/or South-North experience sharing on **climate finance** with due consideration to the participation of women (***activity 5.1.1.2.***). These activities will address Barrier 4 by providing a platform and resources for knowledge sharing and learning.

69. <u>Activity 5.1.1.1. Develop knowledge products on best practices and lessons learned on climate finance access</u>

70. During the implementation of the project, two or three key knowledge products will be prioritized in coordination with relevant stakeholders to ensure relevance, feasibility, and alignment with national needs

- A **comprehensive manual** outlining the processes, requirements, and strategies for accessing GCF and other international climate funds. Sections covering funding eligibility, proposal development, financial instruments (grants, loans, blended finance), and case studies.
- **Policy Brief**: Strengthening Congo's Climate Finance Readiness
- A **modular training package** with presentation slides on climate finance sources, instruments, and application processes, as well as interactive exercises for capacity-building workshops
- **Case Study Compendium**: Innovative Climate Finance Models

Audience: **Government officials, financial institutions, and CSOs involved in climate finance**

<u>Activity 5.1.1.2. Organize or participate in South-South experience sharing workshops on climate finance.</u>

71. To strengthen national capacity in accessing and managing climate finance, Activity 5.1.1.2 will facilitate South-South knowledge exchange with countries that have successfully mobilized GCF and other climate finance mechanisms. The cooperation will be organized by the UNDP Country Offices, the NDA and with the support of UNDP south-south cooperation Unit. The cooperation will include:
    - Virtual Knowledge Exchange Series – Expert presentations and case studies on successful climate finance strategies. Participants (40-50 total, at least 1/3 women), government Officials, financial & Private Sector, other stakeholders.
    - In-Person Exchange visit – Interactive engagement with peers from selected countries. such as, Rwanda, Costa Rica, – Climate investment framework integration.

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Section 4. Logical framework

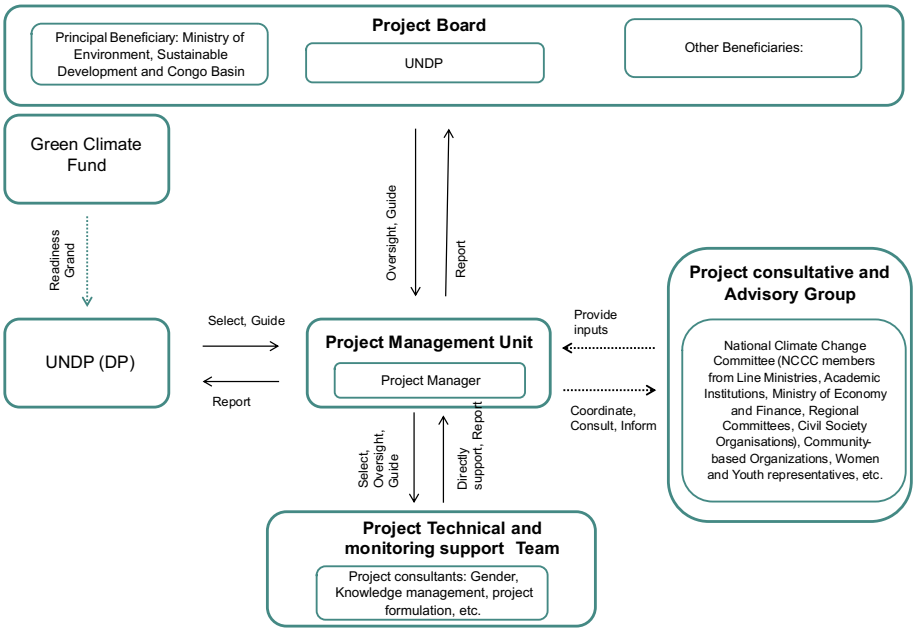
Attached separately

Section 5. Implementation arrangements and other information (*indicative* maximum length: eight pages)

5.1. Implementation arrangements

72. The Government of Congo has identified UNDP as its **delivery partner** for the current Readiness grant. UNDP will take responsibility, under the leadership and guidance of the NDA, for the implementation of this Readiness grant and will carry out all fiduciary and financial management, procurement of goods and services, monitoring, reporting activities, as well as management, oversight and control of consultants in compliance with UNDP's policies and procedures and in accordance with the Second Amended and Restated Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement between the GCF and UNDP dated 22 July 2020. No grant funds will be used to pay for existing staff or consultants of the government or any beneficiaries. The project will be implemented under Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) following UNDP POPP guidance available here: https://popp.undp.org/SitePages/POPPSubject.aspx?SBJID=12&Menu=BusinessUnit.
73. **Delivery Partner (DP).** UNDP will manage and implement this Readiness grant and be responsible for procurement and contracting all services envisaged in the proposal, including monitoring and evaluation of activities, and reporting to the fund on project implementation progress. All financial transactions and procurement of goods and services will be carried out based on an approved budget and strictly according to UNDP procedure, in alignment with procurement guidelines and policies of the GCF.
74. UNDP will be responsible for effective and efficient utilization of funds, preparation, and submission of interim and final reports on achieved results to the NDA and GCF. UNDP will provide financial and technical oversight services for the outcomes and outputs of the project. UNDP will ensure that project monitoring and evaluation run according to an agreed schedule, and in line with UNDP and GCF requirements. UNDP will be responsible for overall execution of the project and for timely achievement of project results, under the leadership and guidance of the NDA.
75. **NDA.** The NDA is the beneficiary of the current Readiness request and will therefore provide guidance to UNDP. It will facilitate and convene meetings of a technical and administrative nature, support in gaining access to data and information, and keep all local stakeholders informed of the progress of the Readiness grant.
76. The NDA will ensure country ownership and achievement of outcomes and outputs, through its participation in the Project Board, and in day-to-day coordination meetings and activities between the NDA staff and the project team. The NDA will provide guidance during the implementation of activities by working with UNDP and consultants to ensure that the project achieves results that will deliver long-term impacts. The NDA will be responsible for providing quality control and endorsement of reports (technical, monitoring, and evaluation reports) and documents produced under the grant to ensure country ownership. The NDA will facilitate and steer engagements with line ministries and other stakeholders as required. The grant funds will not be used to pay for the staff or consultants of the government or any beneficiaries.
77. **Project Board (PB)** comprises representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and the Congo Basin, UNDP and other key ministries.
78. The PB is established to review performance based on monitoring and evaluation, and implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. The PB is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for the project and will ensure alignment of readiness activities with national policies. The PB: i) provides overall strategic guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation; and ii) review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The PB is responsible for making management decisions by consensus. To ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, PB decisions should be made in accordance with standards that ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition. The PB will meet at least once a year to provide strategic guidance, hold project reviews to assess annual performance and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. The PB will hold ad hoc meetings when necessary to deal with emerging issues.

79. **Project Consultative and Advisory Group (PAG)** will be established and serve as an advisory body when appropriate and to support and promote the Readiness activities. The PTC will consist of the National Climate Change Committee, line ministries with related mandates to project activities, academic institutions, private sector, civil society organizations, etc.
80. **The Project Management Unit (PMU) will** be responsible for implementing the project. The PMU will be based in the UNDP country office in RoC and will be responsible for providing daily technical, administrative, and financial project management. It will establish and coordinate collaboration with technical departments involved in project implementation and with the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and the Congo Basin support. It shall serve as the secretariat for the Project Board. It will facilitate project-related planning activities such as the preparation of annual work plans and be responsible for overall project monitoring and reporting. The PMU will comprise of a Project Manager who will oversee the technical team (e.g., Gender specialist, Project development expert, Knowledge management specialist, GCF accreditation specialist, etc.) assigned to different project tasks. A brief description of roles and responsibilities of the PMU is provided in section 5.2. The PMU and the technical consultants' team will work under the direct supervision of UNDP with guidance from the NDA**.**
81. The management arrangements for this project are summarized in the chart below:



5.2. Implementation and Execution Roles and responsibilities

Entity	Position Title	Outputs	Responsibilities	Minimum Qualifications	Budget note
DP	Project Manager	Grant delivered within the approved scope, cost, and timeline	Oversee and manage the grant delivery	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate change related field Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience	AK & PM1
DP	Program Development Expert	2.1.1. Country Program	Lead the country program	Academic qualifications:	Q

	international consultant	developed and endorsed	development process	• Master's degree in climate change or related field Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience	
DP	Program Development Expert national consultant	2.1.1. Country Program developed and endorsed	Support the country program development process	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate change or related field Professional qualifications: • 07 years of experience	P
DP	Project development expert international consultant	4.3.1. Concept notes developed 4.3.4. Prefeasibility studies conducted	Oversee the formulation of concept notes, feasibility studies and PPF	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate change related field Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience in project development	Y
DP	Project development expert national consultant	4.3.1. Concept notes developed 4.3.4. Prefeasibility studies conducted	Assist with oversight of the formulation of concept notes, feasibility studies and PPF	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate change related field Professional qualifications: • 07 years of experience in project development	U
DP	Climate finance expert international consultant	1.3.1. Relevant stakeholders trained	Oversee training/capacity building on climate finance	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate finance related field Professional qualifications: • 5 years of experience in climate finance	I
DP	GCF accreditation expert/firm	1.2.2. Direct access applicants supported	Oversee accreditation process for the Postal Bank of Congo	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in administration/finance Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience	A
DP	National consultant	1.2.2. Direct access applicants supported	National accreditation process support linking with Postal Bank of Congo	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in administration/finance Professional qualifications:	G

				• 5 years of experience	
DP	MRV international consultant	1.3.1. Relevant stakeholders trained	Oversee training on GHG inventory/accounting	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate change related field Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience in GHG accounting/monitoring	K
DP	Adaptation international consultant	1.3.1. Relevant stakeholders trained	Oversee training on vulnerability risk assessment and adaptation	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in climate change related field Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience in climate change adaption	J
DP	Knowledge management national consultant	5.1.1. Knowledge products developed	Oversee knowledge sharing and learning	Academic qualifications: • Master's degree in communication, knowledge management Professional qualifications: • 10 years of experience in knowledge management	AE

5.3. Risk and Mitigation Measures

5.3.1 Risk Assessment and Risk Monitoring Plan

Risk category[4]	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s) If relevant, specify the strategies adopted by the ongoing readiness grant in the country to mitigate the risks	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
Political	Insufficient political support by the government	Low	High	Close engagement of policy makers in all stages of project cycle	UNDP

[4] Risk categories can include Operational, Political, Stakeholder engagement, Implementation, Natural hazards related disasters, Unsustainability, Compliance, Money laundering, terrorist financing and prohibited practices, etc.

Operational	Failure to pass accreditation standards by DAE	Medium	Medium	Proceed with an international accredited entity, while addressing BPC accreditation gaps	UNDP
Political	Political/institutional instability	Low	Medium	Designation and working with technical focal points at line ministries	UNDP
Stakeholder engagement	Insufficient gender mainstreaming or engagement	Low	Low	Mainstreaming gender in project design	UNDP
Operational	Money laundering	Low	Low	Close monitoring of UNDP policy on money laundering by UGP	UNDP

5.3.2 Sanctions and Restrictive Measures

82. UNDP as the Delivery Partner will ensure that none of the grant funds are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-scconsolidated-. There are no UNSC restrictive measures within RoC.

83. UNDP, by virtue of being an organ of the United Nations and therefore being part of the same entity, is also beholden to the principles on countering the financing of terrorism. UNDP systematically screens all entities being contracted by our partner with UNDP against the Consolidated UN Security Council Sanctions List. This is built into the capacity screening tools for partners, as well as in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Vendor Management. UNDP also secures contractual representations from its national implementing partners that address risks of funds received for implementation of projects being used to support individuals or entities associated with terrorism and recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder appearing on the Consolidated UN Sanctions Lists.

84. This is further supplemented by internal controls to mitigate the risks, including due diligence requirements for partners and private entities UNDP intends to engage with. When developing a new project, UNDP ensures that risks are fully identified and considered in the project design and processes and that adequate and effective measures to prevent, monitor, and address such risks are put in place.

85. The normal verification of vendors on the sanctions list is done by checking the UNGM ineligibility list at various stages of the procurement processes - at the evaluation, in the submission to the Procurement Review Committees, further verified by the Procurement Review Committees prior to the award of contracts and at the point of vendor creation in ATLAS. These checks are documented in the evaluation reports. The UNGM Ineligibility list automatically compares the details of vendors registering on UNGM or any vendor that is searched on the site with the details of companies or individuals on lists such as the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List (CUNSCSL), World Bank's Listing of Ineligible Firms & Individuals, and lists of sanctioned/suspended vendors maintained by UN organizations. It specifically compares the company name, contacts, and email addresses of registered vendors with the details on the lists mentioned. It is an automated search engine that is utilized by all UN Agencies.

86. The UNDP Regulations and Rules include a policy for protection against retaliation. This policy can be publicly accessed (Please refer to: https://popp.undp.org/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/Ethics_Protection%20against%20Retaliation.docx&action=default).

87. It is the Policy of UNDP that Retaliation against individuals holding UNDP assignments/contracts (i.e., staff members, interns, UN Volunteers, and contractors) who have, in good faith, properly reported allegations of misconduct, or who have cooperated with a duly authorized audit or investigation, is strictly prohibited. Such Retaliation violates the fundamental obligation of all staff members to uphold the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity as required under the UN Charter, and to discharge their functions and regulate their conduct with the interests of UNDP only in view.

5.3.3 Grievance Redress Mechanisms

88. UNDP promotes accountability to programme and project stakeholders by (i) enabling active local community engagement and participation in decision-making, particularly those at risk of being left behind; (ii) ensuring transparency of programming interventions through provision of timely, accessible and functional information regarding supported activities, including on potential environmental and social risks and impacts and management measures; (iii) ensuring stakeholders can communicate their concerns and have access to rights-compatible complaints redress processes and mechanisms; and (iv) ensuring effective monitoring—and where appropriate, participatory monitoring with stakeholders—and reporting on implementation of social and environmental risk management measures.
89. UNDP recognizes that even with strong planning and stakeholder engagement, unanticipated issues can still arise. Therefore, various channels and mechanisms are available to promote accountability and transparency.
90. The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) opens the possibility for individuals and communities to submit complaints and feedback directly to UNDP when they believe that a project implemented by UNDP affects or may be having an adverse impact on them, their community, or the environment. The project-level GRM functions on two levels: at the Project Management level, under the direction of the Project Manager (supported by the project management unit), and as part of UNDP's Project Assurance role in consultation with and in support of the Project Board. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function, under the direction of the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative.
91. Additionally, UNDP's social and environmental standards are underpinned by an Accountability Mechanism with two key components: (i) the Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) (at the Country Office level and HQ level) that ensures individuals, peoples, and communities affected by projects have access to appropriate grievance resolution procedures for hearing and jointly addressing complaints and disputes related to the social and/or environmental impacts of UNDP-supported projects; and (ii) the Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) which investigates alleged non-compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards and screening procedure from project-affected stakeholders and recommends measures to address findings of non-compliance. For more details, refer to UNDP Accountability.
92. Further, UNDP has a policy for reporting misconduct and a strict **Policy for Protection Against Retaliation** for reporting misconduct and cooperating with a duly authorized audit or investigation.
93. Below are links to key UNDP documents and registries:

    - Link 1: UNDP Accountability:

    https://www.undp.org/accountability/audit/social-and-environmental-compliance-review-and-stakeholder-response-mechanism

    - Link 2: Stakeholder Response Mechanism - Case Registry: https://srm.info.undp.org/
    - Link 3: Social and Environmental Compliance- Case Registry:

    https://secu.info.undp.org/

    - Link 4: Project-level grievance redress mechanisms:

    https://info.undp.org/sites/bpps/SES_Toolkit/SES%20Document%20Library/Uploaded%20October%202016/UNDP%20SES%20Supplemental%20Guidance_Grievance%20Redress%20Mechanisms.pdf

5.4. Monitoring

94. Project monitoring will be led by UNDP as the DP in close coordination with the NDA. The monitoring of the project activities aims at achieving projected results and quality control. Activity monitoring will take place as project interventions occur. Reporting will be submitted to GCF in alignment with the framework agreement.
95. All project activities will be monitored on a regular basis based against the expected outputs identified in the logical framework. This is the primary responsibility of the project manager. UNDP will be responsible for complying with all UNDP project-level M&E requirements as outlined in the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP). This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment during implementation is undertaken annually; the regular updating of the Quantum risk log; and the updating of the UNDP gender marker on an annual basis. Any quality concerns flagged during these monitoring activities (e.g., Annual Project Report quality assessment ratings) will be addressed by the PMU. UNDP will also ensure that the standard UNDP and GCF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality.
96. At the end of awareness workshops conducted under the project, a post-workshop assessment will be conducted to obtain feedback from participants regarding their learnings Additionally, all stakeholder consultative meetings and workshops will maintain a list of participants with sex-disaggregated data. In addition to the GCF annual progress reports, biannual progress reports will also be prepared by UNDP. A project risk register will be prepared that will serve as a record of all risks identified at the project level including likelihood, impact, significance level, risk owner, and risk treatment action. The risk register will be regularly monitored and updated so that emerging issues can be addressed promptly. The Project Board Steering Committee will monitor a project's performance against the indicators and will assess whether the project meets its objectives and milestones.
97. **Audit**: The project will be audited according to UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies on DIM implemented projects as well as the Framework Agreement.
98. **Inception Workshop**: Project inception workshop will be held within three months after the project document has been signed by all relevant parties with the objective of:

    a. Sensitizing stakeholders on the overall readiness approach planned through the project.

    b. Discussing the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms.

    c. Reviewing the results framework and finalizing the indicators, means of verification and monitoring plan.

99. **Internal quarterly reporting to the NDA and empowered committee**: Internal project level quarterly progress meetings will be held, and reports will be provided by the PMU for the NDA and GCF Empowered Committee. These meetings/reports will highlight lessons learned and implementation challenges and how lessons can be fed back into the project to improve implementation.
100. **Annual project report:** UNDP and the NDA will prepare the annual project report for submission to the GCF. The PMU will ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored bi-annually in advance so that progress can be included in the report.
101. **Project completion report**: At the end of the project implementation period, UNDP will prepare a completion report and a financial report, both of which will be submitted to the GCF within the given timelines.

5.5. Other relevant information

Selection of Delivery Partner:

102. Defined by an agreement between UNDP and the Government of Congo in 1976, UNDP has been collaborating with national actors and partner institutions for the country's human and sustainable development. Currently, UNDP Congo partnership with the government of Congo is organized around two interlinked pillars, which simultaneously aims at strengthening governance, peacekeeping and security (pillar 1) advancing sustainable diversification of the economy and the

resilience of vulnerable communities and institutions to climate change (pillar 2). In the context of climate change and natural resource management, UNDP has been cooperating extensively with the Government of Congo since 1976 including the following initiatives:

- Sub-regional project for sustainable management of protected areas (GEF)
- Rural micro-hydroelectricity development project (GEF)
- Development Minerals Promotion Project (EU)
- Climate Pledge for Impact Project - Leveraging the Climate Pledge to transform Nationally Determined Contributions into ambitious climate action with the UK (DEFRA) and the Germans (BMZ)
- Biodiversity Financing Project-BIOFIN (GEF)
- Renewable Energy Development Project (TRAC)
- Project Catalyzing sustainable forest management on the Lacs Télé - Tumba transboundary wetland site (LTLT)
- Integrated Conservation of Peatland Ecosystems Project and Promotion of Ecotourism in the Lac Télé Landscape in the Republic of Congo (UNEP)
- Partnerships for Biodiversity Conservation Project: sustainable financing of protected area systems in the Congo Basin (GEF/COMIFAC) REDD+ Project (UN-REDD)

103. For more information about UNDP's presence in Congo, please visit URL https://www.undp.org/fr/congo

Exit and sustainability strategy

104. The exit and sustainability strategy lies on four key elements, including (i) the accreditation of the Postal Bank of Congo (PBC), (ii) capacity building of key stakeholders, (iii) pipeline development, and (iv) knowledge management. In respect to accreditation to GCF, the strengthening of PBC and ministry of economics and finance institutional capacities will result in its accreditation leading to continued access to climate finance at scale even after the project closure. Concerning the capacity building of key stakeholders, these latter will be equipped with the skills and knowledge on climate finance necessary to develop bankable projects ready for financing. The skills and knowledge acquired will be used especially after the project lifetime. About pipeline development, at least one concept note developed during the project will mature to fully-fledged funding proposal through the PPF. This funding proposal will be aligned and support the implementation of NDC 3.0 beyond the project lifetime. Furthermore, lessons learned and best practices on climate finance will be documented and disseminated, including through the development of communication products disseminated through various communication platforms (UNDP webpage, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, etc.), but also South-South and North-South experience sharing.

Grant closure

105. Upon completion of the grant activities, the grant recipient (Delivery Partner) shall transfer all tangible and intangible assets and their ownership to the grant beneficiaries, or any other body(ies) designated by the NDA.

Prohibited practices policies

106. UNDP has strict Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy (AML/CFT). There are several measures designed to impose stringent controls and due diligence requirements, raise awareness, and facilitate the appropriate reporting process to prevent and detect activities linked to money laundering and financing of terrorism.

107. Measures include screening potential counterparties prior to contractual agreement against the United Nations Global Marketplace Ineligible Vendor Lists. Contractual arrangements will have appropriate representations and warranties from UNDP's Counterparties regarding AML/CFT, with termination clauses in case of breach of such AML/CFT representations and warranties.

108. All credible allegations of activities believed to contravene the principles set out in this AML/CFT Policy will be assessed and investigated, as appropriate, in accordance with the Charter of the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations ("OAI"), the OAI Investigation Guidelines and the UNDP

Legal Framework for Addressing Non-compliance with UN Standards of Conduct, when applicable. The AML/CFT Policy will be strictly followed during the project implementation.

109. Further UNDP has a policy for reporting misconduct and a strict Policy for Protection Against Retaliation for reporting misconduct and cooperating with a duly authorized audit or investigation.

Social and Environmental Screening

110. This project proposal has been screened (i) to identify and reflect the significance of potential impacts or risks that project activities might present, and (ii) to identify opportunities to enhance benefits and to support stakeholders. UNDP's mandatory Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) provides detailed requirements and guidance on screening and assessment. Categorization is undertaken to reflect the level of review and resources required for addressing such impacts and risks. UNDP will utilize its Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) to identify potential social and environmental risks and opportunities associated with the project. Concept notes developed under the project for submission to GCF will be scrutinized as to its type, location, scale, sensitivity, and the magnitude of its potential social and environmental impacts. Potential adverse gender impacts related to project activities will also be identified and differentiated measures will be adopted to prevent gender-based discrimination. Potential risks of gender-based violence and/or sexual exploitation and abuse of men, women, girls and boys that may occur in connection with any of the designed activities will be considered.

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

6.1. Budget Plan

6.2. Procurement Plan

6.3 Human Resources (HR) Plan

6.4 Implementation Plan

Attached.

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Quantum Award ID:	1399409	Quantum Output Project ID:	01004521
Quantum Proposal or Award Title:	PIMS 10287 Congo GCF NDA Readiness		
Quantum Business Unit	UNDP-COG		
Quantum Primary Output Project Title:	Strengthening National Capacities for the Implementation of the NDC 3.0 in the Republic of Congo		
UNDP-GCF PIMS No.	10287		
Implementing Partner	UNDP		

Quantum Outcome (GCF Component)	**Quantum Output (GCF Outcome)**	**Quantum Activity (GCF Output)**	**Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)**	**Quantum Fund ID**	**Quantum Donor ID**	**Quantum Budgetary Account Code**	**Quantum Budget Account Description**	**Amount Year *2025* (USD)**	**Amount Year *2026* (USD)**	**Amount Total (USD)**	**See Budget Note**
Objective 1: Capacity building	**Outcome 1.2. Direct access applicants and accredited entities**	Output 1.2.2. Direct Access Applicants supported with training,	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*72100*	*Contractual Services-Companies*	50,000.00	50,000.00	100,000.00	A
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00	B

	have established capacity to meet and maintain the GCF's accreditation standards; and accredited DAEs have capacity to develop a pipeline of projects and effectively implement them.	capacity development, or improved systems to close gaps.				*71600*	*Travel*	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00	C
						74100	*Professional Services*	2,065.00	2,065.00	4,130.00	D
						72200	*Equipment and Furniture*	2,500.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	F
						71300	*Local Consultants*	24,000.00	24,000.00	48,000.00	G
						71400	*Contractual Services - Individ*	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	AK
						72500	*Supplies*	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	H
	Outcome 1.3. Relevant country stakeholders (which may include executing entities, CSOs and private sector) have established adequate capacity, systems and networks to support the planning, programmin	Output 1.3.1. Relevant stakeholders engaged and trained to support planning, programming and implementation of GCF funded activities.	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71200*	*International Consultants*	60,000.00	60,000.00	120,000.00	I, J, K
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	L
						71600	*Travel*	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00	M
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	N, O

	g and implementation of GCF funded activities.										
Objective 2. Strategic Framework	**Outcome 2.1. GCF recipient countries have developed initial country programmes to guide GCF investment and programming of GCF Readiness and Prepatory Support resources**	Output 2.1.1. Country programme endorsed by GCF recipient country processes	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	7,000.00	7,000.00	14,000.00	P
						71200	*International Consultants*	14,000.00	14,000.00	28,000.00	Q
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00	R, AL
						71600	*Travel*	6,500.00	6,500.00	13,000.00	S, T
						71400	*Contractual Services - Individ*	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	AK
Objective 4. Pipeline Development	**Outcome 4.3. An increase in the number of quality concept notes developed and submitted that target SIDS, LDCs**	Output 4.3.1. CN developed targeting SIDS, LDCs and African states.	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	12,000.00	12,000.00	24,000.00	U
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00	V, W
						71600	*Travel*	11,000.00	11,000.00	22,000.00	X, Z
						71200	*International Consultants*	16,800.00	16,800.00	33,600.00	Y

	and African states.					*71400*	*Contractual Services - Individ*	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	AK
		Output 4.3.4. Prefeasibility studies conducted targeting SIDS, LDCs and African states.	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	16,000.00	16,000.00	32,000.00	AA
						71200	*International Consultants*	32,000.00	32,000.00	64,000.00	AB
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	AC
						71600	*Travel*	9,000.00	9,000.00	18,000.00	AD
Objective 5. Knowledge sharing and learning	**Outcome 5.1. Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDAs, DAEs, and delivery**	Output 5.1.1. NDAs, DAEs, DPs have developed knowledge products containing information on LECRD, methodologies, lessons learned or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries (South-	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	9,000.00	9,000.00	18,000.00	AE
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	AF
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*	12,000.00	12,000.00	24,000.00	AG
						71600	*Travel*	17,000.00	17,000.00	34,000.00	AH, AI

	partners with the GCF.	South cooperation).									
Total Outcome Budget								425,865.00	425,865.00	851,730.00	
Project Management Cost (PMC)	**Project Management Cost (PMC)**	**Project Management Cost (PMC)**	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71400*	*Contractual Services - Individ*	15,000	15,000	30,000.00	PM1, PM2
						74596	*Services to Projects - GOEs*	12,922	12,922	25,844.00	PM3
						74100	*Professional Services*	2,500	2,500	5,000.00	PM4
Contingency	**Contingency**	**Contingency**	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*74500*	*Miscellaneous Expenses*	4,259	4,259	8,517.30	XX
Total Project Grant without fee								460,545.65	460,545.65	921,091.30	
DP Fee 8.5%								39,146.38	39,146.38	78,292.76	
Total Grant								499,692.03	499,692.03	999,384.06	

Budget Note	Detailed Description
A	Professional services - Firm #1: to engage a firm for USD 100,000 lumpsum to support Postal Bank of Congo to meet the GCF's accreditation standards and implement Activity 1.2.2.1. The capacity building will also target strengthening the Social, Environmental and Governance policy. This includes the improvement of the environmental and social screening Procedures, the inclusion (gender, youth, people with disability) strategy and their mainstreaming in the bank operations and management.

B	Six (6) one-day workshops for Postal Bank of Congo (USD5000 per event, USD 30,000 total) conducted by Firm #1 on different aspects of the GCF accreditation process. Each workshop will include venue and catering, inviting representatives from line Ministries, NDA, nominated entities, other financial institutions, and will tagreted around 30 participants (Activity 1.2.2.1). The capacity building will also target strengthening the Social, Environmental and Governance policy. This includes the improvement of the environmental and social screening Procedures, the inclusion (gender, youth, people with disability) strategy and their mainstreaming in the bank operations and management.
C	Six trips travel (international) for international expert of Firm #1 for activity 1.2.2.1 estimated at USD 5,000 each trip (including flight ticket and DSA) (Activity 1.2.2.1)
D	Translation services for USD 4,130 (14 days @$295 per day) for translation of documents from French to English for submission to the GCF
F	IT equipement for USD 5,000 lumpsum to equip the project management unit: Project Manager and Finances and Administrative Assistant (2500 USD per person)
G	Consultant (2 local consultant) to conduct capacity building training to NDA, PBC and other key institutions for GCF direct access applicants training, capacity development, or improved systems to close gaps for USD 48,000 at USD400/day for 120 days
H	Office supply for USD 10,000 lumpsum to the project management unit and implementing partners
I	Climate finance expert consultant for USD 40,000 (800 USD/Day for 50 days) to implement activity 1.3.1.1. Train relevant stakeholders on GCF investment programme and project cycle (prepare training material, conduct training session, organize follow up and refresher training session)
J	Adaptation expert consultant for USD 40,000 (800 USD/Day for 50 days) to implement activity 1.3.1.2. Train relevant stakeholders on climate finance mechanisms (e.g., carbon markets, green bonds, debt-for-climate swaps, performance-based payment, etc.) (prepare training material, conduct training session, organize follow up and refresher training session)
K	MRV expert consultant for USD 40,000 (800 USD/Day for 50 days) to implement activity 1.3.1.3. Train relevant stakeholders on climate planning and reporting (e.g., GHG inventory/accounting, vulnerability risks assessment and reduction, etc.) (prepare training material, conduct training session, organize follow up and refresher training session)
L	Two two-day workshops conducted by climate finance expert for capacity building of stakeholders estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD10,000 total) to include venue and catering, on pipeline generation, concept note and funding proposal development, GCF funding modalities, project cycle and programming, GCF investment framework and sectoral guides
M	Six trips travel (international) for international expert (climate finance, adaptation expert and MRV expert) for activity 1.2.2.1 estimated at USD 5,000 each trip (including flight ticket and DSA) (Activity 1.3.1.1, 1.3.1.2., 1.3.1.3)
N	Two two-day workshops conducted by adaptation expert for capacity building of stakeholders estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD10,000 total) to include venue and catering, on climate finance mechanisms (e.g., carbon markets, green bonds, debt-for-climate swaps, performance-based payment, etc.)
O	Two two-day workshops conducted by MRV expert for capacity building of stakeholders estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD10,000 total) to include venue and catering, on climate planning and reporting (e.g., GHG inventory/accounting, vulnerability risks assessment and reduction, etc.)
P	Local expert consultant for country programme develpement assistance for 14,000 USD (400 USD/Day for 35 days) activity 2.1.1.1
Q	International expert consultant for country programme develpement assistance for 28,000 USD (800 USD/Day for 35 days) activity 2.1.1.1
R	Four one-day workshops or meetings for 30 persons for country programme developpement and validation 2.1.1.1. estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD20,000 total) to include venue and catering (activity 2.1.1.1)
S	Two trips travel (international) for international expert estimated at USD 4,500 each trip (including flight ticket and DSA), for the country programme developement (activity 2.1.1.1)
T	Two local trip travel (in-country) for the consultant team (local and international) during the the country programme developement estimated at 2,000 USD each trip (activity 2.1.1.1)
U	Project development expert consultant for 24,000 USD (400 USD/Day for 60 Days) to prepare 2 concept note for priorities sector of both adaptation and mitigation in line with the Country NDC (Activities 4.1.1.1 and 4.1.1.2)

V	Three one-day workshop to develop 1 concept note relate to priorities sector of mitigation (launch, review and validation) estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD15,000 total) to include venue and catering (Activities 4.1.1.1 and 4.1.1.2)
W	Three one-day workshop to develop 1 concept note relate to priorities sector of adaptation (launch, review and validation) estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD15,000 total) to include venue and catering (Activities 4.1.1.1 and 4.1.1.2)
X	Six trip local travel (Car rental and fuel, local DSA, translation) for the consultant team (local and international) during the stakeholder consultation for the preparation of the concept note for activity 4.1.1.1. and 4.1.1.2. estimated at 2,000 USD each trip
Y	International consultant to work with local consultant for the elaboration of 2 concept note for 33,600 USD (800 USD/Day for 42 days) (Activities 4.1.1.1 and 4.1.1.2)
Z	Two trips travel (international) for international expert estimated at USD 5,000 each trip (including flight ticket and DSA) (Activities 4.1.1.1 and 4.1.1.2)
AA	Local expert consultant for Pre-feasibility study for 32,000 USD (400 USD/Day for 80 days) activity 4.1.4.1
AB	International expert consultant for Pre-feasibility study for 64,000 USD (800 USD/Day for 80 days) activity 4.1.4.1
AC	Four one-day workshops or meetings for 30 persons (5000/workshop: meeting room and catering) to launch the pre feasibility study and the restitution/validation workshop activity 4.1.4.1
AD	Four trips travel (international) for international expert estimated at USD 4,500 each trip (including flight ticket and DSA) (Activities 4.1.4.1)
AE	Local expert Knowledge management consultant for USD 18,000 (400 USD/Day for 45 days) for activity 5.1.1.1. The expert will develop climate finance knowledge products
AF	Two one-day workshops or meetings for 30 persons for the validation of knowledge management material activity 5.1.1.1
AG	Audio visual and knowledge management material printing fees for 25,000 USD lumpsum
AH	Two International learning visit to countries that are advanced in climate finance and carbone market for three people at USD 5,000 per participant ($2,000 airfare and $3,000 DSA) 15,000 USD per visit
AI	Two trip travel (local) for the consultant team (local and international) estimated at 2,000 USD each trip (activity 5.1.1.1)
AK	National Professional Service Agreement- Individual: Project Manager (PM) NPSA 11 at USD 22,500 per year. 1/3 of time allocated to oversee Project Management Activities (USD 15,000). 2/3 (USD 30,000) will be charged to the 3 Outcomes (Outcome 1.2, 2.1, and 4.1). Totalling USD 45,000.
AL	Two one-day workshop for the country GCF readiness programme (Consultation and validation) estimated at USD 5,000 per event (USD10,000 total) to include venue and catering
Project Management Cost	
PM1	National Professional Service Agreement-Project Manager (PM) NPSA 11 at USD 22,500 per year. 1/3 of time allocated to oversee Project Management Activities (USD 15,000). 2/3 (USD 30,000) will be charged to the 3 Outcomes (Outcome 1.2, 2.1, and 4.1). Totalling USD 45,000. See budget AK.
PM 2	National Professional Service Agreement- Individual: Admin and Finance associate (NPSA-5) will work part-time (50%) to oversee day-to-day operational aspects of the project. The cost is 7,500 USD/Year for 2 years.
PM3	Support centralized procurement. Procurement support, recruitment, travel management, finance management, ICT service, general service etc. 25,844 USD for 2 years. The direct services to project will be charged based on UNDP UPL
PM4	Professional Services to conduct annual audits of the project @ $2,500 p/a. This budget will only be utilized if the GCF project receives an external audit conducted by a third-party auditor (excluding UN Board of Auditors), or in the absence of the external audit these funds will be reprogrammed towards the achievement of the approved activities, in consultation and agreement with the Project Board and GCF.

XX	Contingency budget for unforeseen costs arising during the grant implementation.Any use of contingency must be reported to and agreed by the GCF Secretariat in writing in advance provided with justifications that are acceptable to the GCF.