

GEF Sustainable Groundwater Management In SADC Member States Project Phase 2

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10797

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

GEF Sustainable Groundwater Management In SADC Member States Project Phase 2

Countries

Regional, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, Angola, Botswana, Congo DR

Agency(ies)

World Bank

Other Executing Partner(s)

SADC-Groundwater Management Institute (SADC-GMI)

Executing Partner Type

Others

GEF Focal Area

International Waters

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, International Waters, Learning, Freshwater, Aquifer, River Basin, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Education, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Participation, Gender results areas, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 2

Duration

70 In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

433,790.00

Submission Date

3/24/2021

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
IW-3-5	GET	2,110,000.00	10,000,000.00
IW-3-6	GET	610,000.00	10,000,000.00
IW-3-7	GET	1,846,210.00	15,000,000.00
Total Project Cost (\$)		4,566,210.00	35,000,000.00

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

The Project Development Objective is to develop capacity and knowledge for inclusive groundwater management in the SADC region at the national and transboundary levels.

Project Outcomes

Components:

Component 1. Institutional capacity building at national and regional level. The focus will be on capacity to manage and regulate groundwater use including its sustainable management, groundwater planning, and groundwater regulation. The target is to establish and operationalize new NFGs in 8 of the 11 SADC states with no NFG.

- 1.1. Development of guidelines & tools for capacity building of RBOs to integrate GW.
- 1.2. Establishment & operationalization of GW Committees in the RBOs.
- 1.3. Preparation of Roadmaps and implementation of some action plans to close Policy, Legal & Institutional gaps inhibiting sustainable GW management in the Member States.
- 1.4. Roll out the establishment of National Focal Groups in the Member States to enhance GW management & development.
- 1.5. Organization & delivery of on demand training to Member States.

Component 2. Knowledge development, dissemination and advocacy. The focus will be on supporting research on regional groundwater issues and on developing groundwater monitoring capacity.

- 2.1. Support research in TBAs and on regional GW challenges and innovations (e.g. WEFE, Economic valuation of GW, challenges unique to island/coastal states, etc).
- 2.3. Support Member States to develop real-time GW monitoring capacity and harmonized Databases.
- 2.4. Support development of Regional GW Monitoring network and DSS.

Component 3. Building resilient livelihoods and inclusive groundwater management: Support to innovative groundwater sub-grant projects (pilots) in the member states. Support to innovative groundwater sub-grant projects (pilots).

PDO Indicators:

PDO indicator I. Percentage of stakeholders reporting using capacity and knowledge products developed by the project for their work

PDO indicator II. Percentage of stakeholders applying inclusive groundwater management and use practices as promoted by the project

PDO indicator III: No. of Direct project beneficiaries (people benefitting from training, pilots and outreach activities. Direct female project beneficiaries (% of total direct project beneficiaries)

Intermediate indicators:

Component 1 Intermediate Indicator:

No. of National Focal Groups established and operational in SADC Member States

Component 2 Intermediate Indicators:

- Expanded SADC-Groundwater Information Portal running on a fully integrated data management system: collects, stores, connects and makes available groundwater information (Yes/No).
- Records included in the Groundwater Literature Archive (GLA) (Number)
- No. of research studies completed in selected TBAs

Component 3 Intermediate Indicators:

- No. of innovative sub-grant projects at SADC Member States level completed with satisfactory outcome
- No. of communities (women and men) organized and trained for participatory groundwater management

Project Component	Financing Type	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 1: Institutional capacity building at national and regional level.	Technical Assistance	GET	1,200,000.00	16,000,000.00
Component 2 – Knowledge development, dissemination and advocacy.	Technical Assistance	GET	2,000,000.00	7,000,000.00
Component 3 – Building resilient livelihoods and inclusive groundwater management.	Investment	GET	1,148,772.00	10,000,000.00
Sub Total (\$)			4,348,772.00	33,000,000.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)				
		GET	217,438.00	2,000,000.00
Sub Total(\$)			217,438.00	2,000,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			4,566,210.00	35,000,000.00

C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Donor Agency	Cooperation in International Waters in Africa	Grant	Investment mobilized	9,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Comoros	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Eswatini	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Lesotho	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Madagascar	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Mozambique	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Namibia	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	3,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Seychelles	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	2,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment South Africa	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	6,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Tanzania	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	2,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Zambia	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	4,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Zimbabwe	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	2,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Mauritania	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment Malawi	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
			Total Project Cost(\$)	35,000,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

CIWA \$9 million grant will support the GEF project, in developing knowledge and capacity for inclusive groundwater management in the SADC region at the national and transboundary levels. The regional grant will be approved by the WB Board in June 2021

D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
World Bank	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	4,566,210	433,790	5,000,000.00
Total GEF Resources(\$)					4,566,210.00	433,790.00	5,000,000.00

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)
PPG Required **false**

PPG Amount (\$)				PPG Agency Fee (\$)			
Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
Total Project Costs(\$)					0.00	0.00	0.00

Core Indicators



Indicator 7 Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Shared water Ecosystem	Sand and Gravel Aquifer, Coastal Sedimentary Basin III			
Count	2	0	0	0



Indicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 7.2 Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional management institution(s) (RMI) to support its implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Sand and Gravel Aquifer	3			
Coastal Sedimentary Basin III	3			

Indicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministeral Committees (IMC; scale 1 to 4; See Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)	
Sand and Gravel Aquifer	2				
Coastal Sedimentary Basin III	2				

Indicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IWLEARN throgh participation and delivery of key products(scale 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)	
Coastal Sedimentary Basin III	2				
Sand and Gravel Aquifer	2				

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

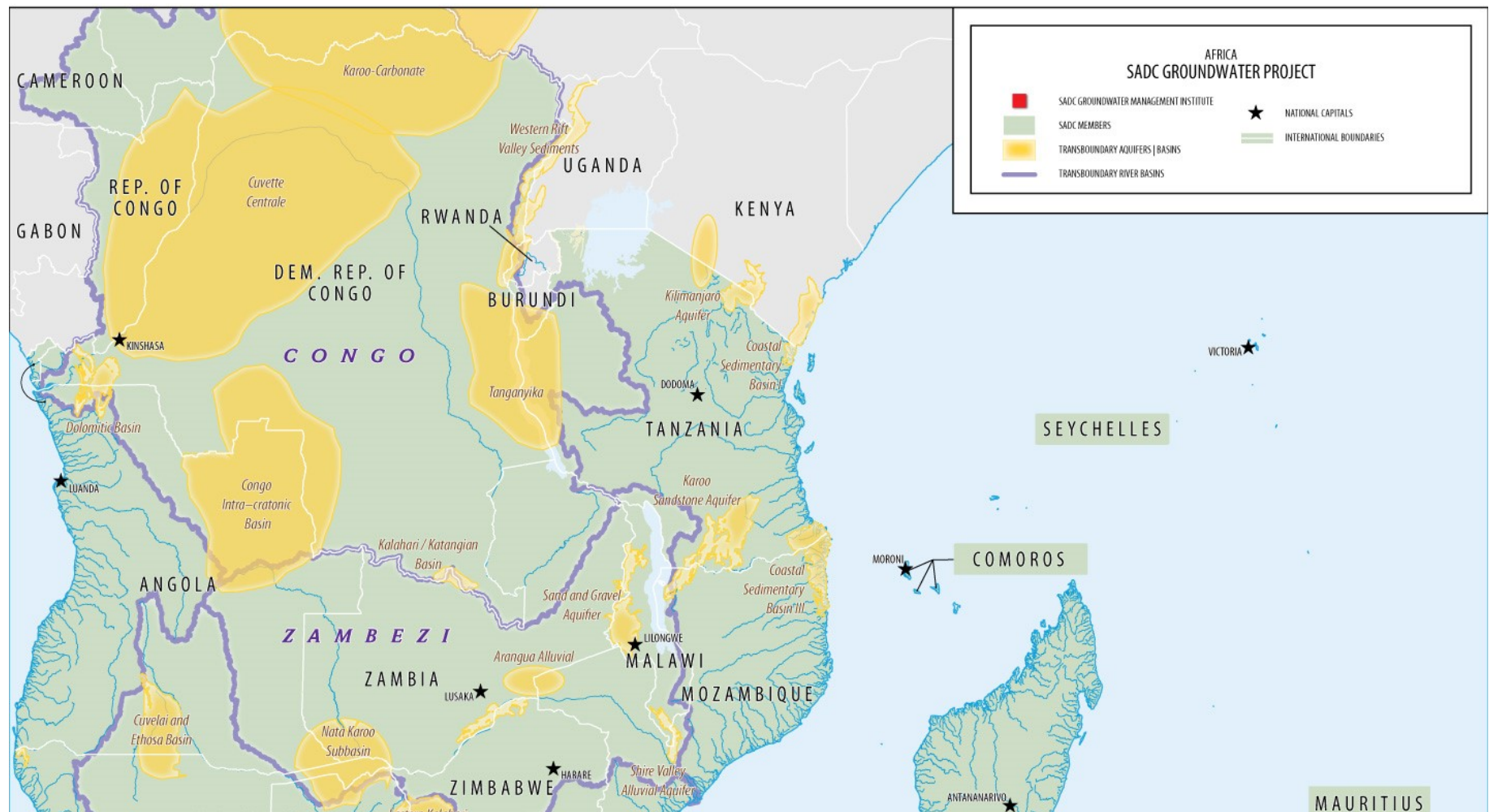
	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)

Female	55,825			
Male	45,675			
Total	101500	0	0	0

Part II. Project Justification

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.





2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Private Sector Entities

If none of the above, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement

The SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana, through the Directorate for Infrastructure and Services (Water Division), will be the custodian of the project and recipient of the Grant. The SADC-GMI will implement the project in synergy with a number of regional, national and local stakeholders. SADC-GMI stakeholders for this project are defined in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the parent CIWA project as people impacted directly or indirectly by the project activities at local, national and transboundary/regional levels playing an important role in enhancing the goals of sustainable conjunctive surface and groundwater management throughout the SADC region. The SEP identifies categories of direct and indirect stakeholders at local, national and regional levels and defines the frequency and modalities of engagement. At regional level the SADC-Secretariat structures such as the SADC-Sub-Committee on Hydrogeology and the SADC-Directorate for Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (SADC-FANR) are key. The River Basin Organizations (RBO), regional water resources management institutes like International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and groundwater professionals are also relevant transboundary stakeholders. At national level, key stakeholders include the multi-stakeholder National Focal Groups (NFGs) as an entity and its individual members from each member state, the National Focal Point Persons (NFPs) and their parent ministries, national water institutions responsible for water management, academic institutions, sub-grantees, groundwater professionals as well as national level NGOs operating in the field. At local levels, the communities and local authorities are stakeholders in the implementation of the pilot projects. The groundwater professionals working with the communities, community-based organizations, water user associations and individuals are also interested stakeholders at local level.

SADC-GMI will engage with the International Cooperating Partners (ICPs) by leveraging ongoing initiatives and programs in the SADC region and globally. This will help SADC-GMI stretch its limited financial and human resources to extend its footprint to other areas that would not have been possible. Some measures to achieve this will include participation at the International Water Conferences such as World Water Week, the annual International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) conference as well as playing a role in coordinating some activities on the AMCOW Pan-Africa Groundwater Program (APAGroP), where a host of other ICPs converge. In the current phase, a network of key partners and stakeholders at the national, regional and international level has been established, including US-AID, IWMI, the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWP-SA), the British Geological Survey, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), AU/Nepad Southern African Network for Water Centers of Excellence (SANWATCE), Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) and Africa Groundwater Network (AGW-Net). Engagements with the ICPs will also include partnerships in for example research projects of mutual interest, importation of innovations in the areas of infrastructure, data collections and manage remote operations, water kiosk, etc

Due to COVID 19 impact, the engagement with the civil society and NGOs during the preparation stage will be conducted through the SADC Council of Non-Governmental Organization, to ensure close collaboration with the existing network of CSO/NGOs. (<http://www.sadccngo.org>)

Stakeholders	Mandate and relevant roles in the project
The SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana, through the Directorate for Infrastructure and Services (Water Division)	Custodian of the project and recipient of the Grant. It is mandated with the strategic planning and management of the SADC programs and is responsible for coordinating and harmonizing policies and strategies in Member States. The project's scope is aligned with treaties, protocols, mandates, and strategic action plans of the SADC. The SADC Secretariat's Water Division of the Directorate for Infrastructure and Services will provide project oversight and strategic guidance throughout implementation.
SADC-GMI host institution	Implementing agency of the project. The proposed arrangements aim to promote cost-effectiveness and sustainability of SADC-GMI activities while consolidating the SADC-GMI position as a regional center-of-excellence on groundwater issues.
SADC-Sub-Committee on Hydrogeology	Key stakeholders at regional level. The SADC subcommittee on Hydrogeology, which supervises all groundwater-related SADC programs, will act as the project's Steering Committee. The steering committee will meet biannually to review project progress and endorse decisions related to project implementation.
The SADC-GMI Board of Directors	Responsible for the financial and strategic oversight of SADC-GMI's activities and statutory compliance.
The River Basin Organizations (RBO), regional water resources management institutes like International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and groundwater professionals	Transboundary stakeholders/beneficiaries. The engagement strategy with RBOs will entail the signature and operationalization of MoUs with the RBOs whose core intent is to help the RBOs integrate groundwater management within the existing institutions. Further strategies will involve advocating for and engaging with RBOs on including groundwater governance considerations in the river basin and TBA management at the SADC bi-annual RBOs workshop as well as at the annual groundwater conference.
National Focal Groups (NFGs). the National Focal Point Person	National level stakeholders/beneficiaries. Five National Focal

ns (NFPs) and their parent ministries, national water institutions responsible for water management, academic institutions, sub-grantees, groundwater professionals as well as national level NGOs operating in the field	al Groups have been established. In the proposed project, NFGs will be instituted in the remaining eleven SADC Member States and will be a key structure in the engagement of national stakeholders and implementing projects in the Member States. Efforts will be dedicated to building the capacity of these NFGs to deliver on their mandate.
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3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).

The role of women in transboundary water resource management is almost unrecognized as a priority compared to other water sectors. The project will, thus, implement deliberate strategies to mainstream gender through women's empowerment and social inclusion actions along thematic areas on policy and strategy, M&E, training and capacity building, knowledge products, implementation of activities and participation in expert panels.

Encouragingly, a study undertaken by the Water Research Commission and the Global Water Partnership[1] that looked at water policies in Africa found that Eastern and Southern African regions have shown some progress in gender mainstreaming in the water sector. Most of the River Basin Organizations (RBOs) have gender mainstreamed into their mandate. Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM), for instance, alludes to conducting livelihood support in a manner that supports more comprehensive gender mainstreaming efforts in marginalized communities.

[1] <https://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-SouthernAfrica/TWM/background/programmes/gender-mainstreaming/sadc-gender-mainstreaming-in-the-water-sector-clinic/>

The project will utilize knowledge and gender information and data collected by the stakeholders. For example, African Ministerial Commission on Water (AMCOW), the Pan-African Groundwater Program (APAGroP), United States Agency for International Development Southern Africa – USAID-SA: Implementation of Big Data and Transboundary Water Cooperation Project.

Local (community-based) and national women's groups will be consulted during project preparation. In addition to that, SADC GMI gender consultations and events are coordinated with the Gender Focal Points (GFPs) within the SADC water ministries and representatives of the gender ministries

Policy and strategy development. The project will make use of the SADC-GMI Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Strategy that is being developed with support from the USAID funded Resilient Waters program. RWP seconded a GESI Consultant to SADC-GMI who is tasked with development of a SADC-GMI GESI mainstreaming strategy, a GESI Implementation plan and documentation of a GESI compliance report for a sample of 6 of the 14 Pilot Infrastructure projects implemented by the SADC-GMI in the current project. In addition, lessons learnt from mainstreaming of GESI into groundwater management initiatives will be documented and disseminated. Overall, the scope of work consolidates the work from the first phase and seeks to build the capacity of SADC-GMI and its stakeholders to effectively mainstream GESI issues in all future work. The Strategy will be fully aligned with the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development plan.

Training and capacity building. The project will intensify activities that will bring in more women into the sector through the academic and Young Professionals programs. Deliberate efforts will also be made to invite female participants to project training and capacity building events including the annual SADC Groundwater Conference. The project will also maximize women's inclusion in expert groups and as trainers to represent women as leaders. Moreover, at community level, sub-grantees will be compelled to implement measures that offer opportunities to build women's capacity to make decisions on their preferences and to lead water user groups. Training curricula will consider gender equality dimensions as appropriate to accommodate the differences in the needs for men and women. Women trainers will also be identified and used to deliver some aspects under this theme.

Knowledge products. The project will also identify and pursue strategies to facilitate the development and dissemination of knowledge products that will include and feature gender-focused issues and highlights. Such products will include profiling female professionals in the groundwater sector and using these products in career fairs to attract young girls and women to join the sector. The knowledge products will also be used as advocacy tools through the creation

of awareness on the roles and contributions of women to the sector at all levels.

Activity assessments. The TOR for key assessments that build the project activities will include deliverables that incorporate efforts towards gender equality and monitor progress, when appropriate. Many aspects of the workstream in each component begins with an assessment of the needs or context, which require the effective inclusion of women in the activity. This approach will be enforced throughout the project components including in Component 3 for implementation of the innovative pilot projects by the sub-grantees.

M&E. The project will aim to bridge gender gaps in activity participation by strengthening networks, targeting of capacity-building activities, and providing enhanced communication with beneficiaries that promotes increased inclusion of women. The project's Results Framework includes indicators which will lead to the collection of gender-disaggregated data to track indicators aimed at closing such gaps throughout the project tenure.

The project will utilize ongoing work and research done by the regional and country stakeholders to strengthen gender equality and women's empowerment

The project is closely aligned to the SADC Regional Strategic Action Plans (RSAPs) on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management, Phases IV (2016-2020) and V (2021-2026), and it is cognizant of the SADC protocol on gender. It is well in line with RSAP IV Sub-Program 6.2: Groundwater Development and Management. Proposed activities under the four key results areas directly support the priority interventions under this sub-program, including institutionalizing the SADC-GMI, strengthening institutional capacity for sustainable groundwater management in SADC, advancing knowledge on transboundary and national groundwater and promoting groundwater infrastructure management and development. The content and context of the SADC groundwater 10-year regional program (2021-2030) are being written directly into the SADC Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP V, 2021 – 2026) that is being finalized by the SADC Secretariat. In keeping with the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development (2008), which seeks to promote women's empowerment and eliminate gender discrimination, SADC countries have committed to ensuring that gender is integrated into policies, programs, projects and activities. Efforts will be made to ensure that all activities associated with this project take into account and seek to accommodate gender differences in terms of roles and responsibilities related to water access, management and utilization as well to consider gender inequalities that exist in the region, including women's unequal access to decision-making processes related to water resource management.

For SADC-GMI activities to be inclusive, social inclusion and gender equality will be mainstreamed. Strategies and approaches will i) consider the needs and challenges of the poor and the vulnerable in relation to access and use of groundwater; and ii) promote diversity in the groundwater-related professions, including promoting education and professional development for youth women. The project will further support the development of tools for SADC-GMI to strengthen its "brand" and value proposition, build trust with the SADC member states and design effective protocols for dialogue and information exchange. It will support National Focal Groups (NFGs) in member states, RBOs and other institutions to contribute to the SADC RSAP vision. It will also aim to influence groundwater policies, planning, and investments at the regional and national level.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes

closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or Yes

generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes

Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

Public and private sector groundwater professionals working at the community level will be indirect program beneficiaries, through access to knowledge, tools and network connections facilitated by the program, and in the case of specialist consultants, through providing services to local infrastructure development and local skills development and training.

In particular, the proposed project will target capacity building of private drilling companies. The project will start this activity with compiling an inventory of all drilling companies across the SADC member countries and creating an online database of drillers. This database will support capacity building and knowledge management activities promoted by the project in order to help the drillers to upgrade and harmonize their practices across the region. Capacity building will include but not be limited to training on drilling and on water yield testing. In addition, the companies will become participants of the Annual Knowledge Management Conference hosted by the SADC-GMI.

The project will benefit all economic sectors and all water user groups, including such private sector users as the industry (private), business sector, agriculture, and domestic sector. Specific private beneficiaries are:

- Local-level direct beneficiaries: Small-grant project and community-level capacity building beneficiaries. The innovative infrastructure pilots implemented by this project to promote sustainable groundwater management practices will directly benefit the planners, managers, implementors, and community members, illustrating the potential of innovative approaches. Another local-level project initiative is developing technical and vocational skills among groundwater stakeholders that enable equal participation of women and men. The modalities will include training and the provision of guidance materials on groundwater stewardship, and the beneficiaries will be the local stakeholders (both women and men) selected and involved in the implementation of the pilot projects.
- Local-level indirect beneficiaries: Communities in Member States. Most rural communities are served from groundwater resources, with high dependence in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, eSwatini, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Many towns and cities also depend substantially on groundwater, including Tshwane in South Africa, Lusaka in Zambia, Bulawayo in Zimbabwe and Dodoma in Tanzania. Considering that the project's technical and institutional capacity support at the national level improves groundwater management and groundwater resources sustainability, groundwater-dependent communities will be indirect beneficiaries.
- National level direct beneficiaries: Focal Persons, Focal Group members, trainees and interns. SADC-GMI has identified and supported National Focal Persons to act as an interface between the Institute and the SADC Member States. Five National Focal Groups were also established. The Focal Group initiative will continue as an activity in the proposed program and will include further capacity building and support inputs. As the focal persons and focal group initiatives unfold, growing numbers of participants will be direct project beneficiaries. Further national-level direct beneficiaries will include country participants in conferences, workshops and training, and young professionals selected and or seconded to join the regional internship program.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Provide preliminary information on the types and levels of risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and describe measures to address these risks during the project design.

Environmental Risk Rating Moderate

The environmental risk rating is moderate at this stage, based on the project's anticipated environmental risks and impacts and considerations of SADC-GMI's limited in-house capacity to manage environmental risks. Proposed investments under component 3 are expected to be small-scale infrastructure development and are expected to be limited in scope with small and localized environmental footprints such as drilling of test boreholes, groundwater level monitoring, piloting, and upscaling of innovative infrastructure solutions to manage recharge of aquifers such as infiltration banks and innovative small scale rural water supply in the form of shallow wells. The investments are expected to take place within already established community areas. Anticipated environmental impacts and risks typically associated with these activities are expected to be low to moderate, predictable, and site-specific. The impacts will be temporary as they will occur mainly during the construction phase and may lead to localized loss of vegetation, soil erosion and degradation, soil and surface water pollution, dust and noise emissions, generation and disposal of small quantities of construction waste, occupational health and safety concerns to contracted workers, community health and safety risks. During the execution of activities such as the installation of boreholes, stakeholder engagement, and monitoring of groundwater levels under component 3, community health risks may include exposure to the COVID-19 pandemic, and therefore the SADC-GMI will be required to determine the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 during these activities and put the necessary prevention and mitigation measures in place in line with the Bank guidelines. Due to the small-scale nature of works and the expected depth of drilling, the project is not likely to have significant adverse impacts on the availability or quality of groundwater or transboundary groundwater resources. The technical assistance; to be financed under this project; may have an overall positive impact on groundwater resources due to the strengthening of regulatory frameworks related to the management of groundwater resources, adequate groundwater planning, and promotion of sustainable usage. However, future investment which may result from the policy reforms and piloting of innovative infrastructure under this project may have a negative impact on the environment of which the magnitude is not known at this stage. Therefore, all future investments will require adequate assessments of environmental implications once the detailed scope of such future investments is known.

Social Risk Rating Moderate

The social risk is considered moderate at this time; issues that may arise are expected to be site-specific, limited in scope and duration, and mitigated through the engagement of good practice measures, including stakeholder engagement, labor procedures and management, and avoidance of risks to communities (in accordance with ESS10, 2 and 4 respectively). The project may have minor adverse impacts on community health and safety and labor and working conditions. It is not expected that the project will require land acquisition or result in loss of livelihoods and assets as the investments are expected to take place within already established community areas.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Submitted
Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS)	

Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And GEF Agency(ies)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

Name	Position	Ministry	Date
Mr. Zaheer Fakir	GEF Operational Focal Point for South Africa	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa	3/23/2021
Mr. Dharam Dev Manraj	G.O.S.J+K Financial Secretary	Ministry of Finance, Economic PLanning and Development, Mauritius	3/22/2021
Mr. Tanyaradzwa Mundoga	GEF Operational Point for Zimbabwe	Secretary for Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry, Zimbabwe	3/15/2021
Ms. Hlobisile Sikhosana	Chief Environmental Coordinator	Ministry of Environment, Eswatini	3/18/2021
Mr. Claudio Afonso	Operational Focal Point for GEF and National Director for Climate Change	Ministry of Land and Environment , Mozambique	3/23/2021
Mr. Youssouf Elamine Youssouf Mbechezi	Director General for Environment and Forests	Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing, Environment and City Planning, Comoros	4/2/2021
Mr. Stanley M. Damane	OFP, The National Environment Secretariat	Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture, Lesotho	4/16/2021
Ms. Shamiso NAJIRA	Chief Environmental Officer, Environmental Affairs Department	Ministry of Natural Resources, Malawi	3/29/2021
Mr. Godwin Fishani GONDWE	Director, Environment Management Department	Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection, Zambia	4/7/2021
Monsieur Hery Andriamirado Rakotondravony	OFP	Ministere de l'Environnement et du Developpement Durable, Madagascar	4/7/2021
Mr. Faraja Ngerageza	AG. Director of Environment	Vice President's Office, Tanzania	4/20/2021

Mr. Teofilus Nghitila	Director of Environmental Affairs	Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Namibia	4/29/2021
Mr. Will Agricole	Principal Secretary	Ministry of Environment, Seychelles Energy and Climate Change,	4/30/2021
Mr. Botshabelo Othusitse	Deputy Director, GEF OFF	Department of Environemtnal Affairs	5/7/2021
Mr. Julio Ingles Joao Ferreira	Advisor to the Minister	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Environment	5/10/2021
Mr. Godefroid Ndaukila Muhinya	Directeur-Chef de Service de la Direction de Developpement Durable	Ministere del'Environnement et Developpement Durable	4/3/2021

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

