



GEF-6 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Support in the design and implementation of the integrated monitoring system of climate change for Honduras		
Country(ies):	Honduras	GEF Project ID: ¹	9942
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01600
Other Executing Partner(s):	Secretariat of Energy, Natural Resources and Environment and Mines (MiAmbiente),	Resubmission Date:	May 30, 2018
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	36
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name of parent program:	[if applicable]	Agency Fee (\$)	99,750

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES²

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
CBIT	CBIT	1,050,000	150,000
Total Project Cost		1,050,000	150,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submissions.

² When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](#) and [CBIT guidelines](#).

Project Objective: To develop technical and logistical capacities for creation and operation of an integrated monitoring system of Climate Change						
Project Components	Financing Type ³	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
1. Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change for Honduras	TA	1.1 An integrated monitoring system of Climate Change for Honduras (between the National Observatory of Climate Change - ONCC-DS; the Environmental Documentation Centre – CREDIA; and the Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit UGMCC) designed and operationalized	1.1.1 A centralized monitoring system for improved data access and information management established in the Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC)	CBIT	325,000	135,000
			1.1.2 A set of country climate change specific indicators of the monitoring system developed	CBIT	125,000	
			1.1.3 A national financial mechanism for the operation of the Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change developed	CBIT	125,000	
			1.1.4 Operating guidelines, protocols and logistical arrangements for data collection, reporting, monitoring and verifying climate change data developed between UGMCC and ONCC-DS	CBIT	189,546	
			1.1.5 A formal program to strengthen capacities and exchange information developed.	CBIT	190,000	
Subtotal					954,546	135,000
Project Management Cost (PMC) ⁴				CBIT	95,454	15,000
Total Project Cost					1,050,000	150,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: ().

³ Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

⁴ For GEF Project Financing up to \$2 million, PMC could be up to 10% of the subtotal; above \$2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

C. INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Recipient Government	Secretariat of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mines (MiAmbiente)	In-kind	150,000
Total Co-financing			150,000

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS ^{a)}

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) ^{b)}	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	CBIT	Honduras	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	1,050,000	99,750	1,149,750
Total GEF Resources					1,050,000	99,750	1,149,750

a) Refer to the [Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies](#).

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)⁵

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes No If no, skip item E.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

Project Preparation Grant amount requested: \$20,000					PPG Agency Fee: 1,900		
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee ⁶ (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	CBIT	Honduras	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	20,000	1,900	21,900
Total PPG Amount					20,000	1,900	21,900

⁵ PPG requested amount is determined by the size of the GEF Project Financing (PF) as follows: Up to \$50k for PF up to \$2m (for MSP); up to \$100k for PF up to \$3m; \$150k for PF up to \$6m; \$200k for PF up to \$10m; and \$300k for PF above \$10m. On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

⁶ PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the Agency fee over the GEF Project Financing amount requested.

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS⁷

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	<i>Hectares</i>
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	<i>Hectares</i>
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>Number of freshwater basins</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>Percent of fisheries, by volume</i>
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO _{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>metric tons</i>
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	<i>metric tons</i>
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	<i>metric tons</i>
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	<i>ODP tons</i>
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries:</i>
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries:</i> <i>1</i>

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. *Project Description.* Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area⁸ strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) [incremental/additional cost reasoning](#) and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and [co-financing](#); 5) [global environmental benefits](#) (GEFTF) and/or [adaptation benefits](#) (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Honduras, as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, recognizes the importance of overcoming the impacts of climate change, necessary for the realization of its development goals and national security. Challenges associated with climate change are further magnified by social and economic inequalities as well as budgetary restrictions in the country. The country has therefore set, as a national

⁷ Provide those indicator values in this table to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF, SCCF or CBIT.

⁸ For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

priority, a target to increase its capacity to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change as well as to make a transformation towards sustainable development.

Given its geographical location in the widest part of the Central American isthmus, the Republic of Honduras is constantly exposed to extreme climate events that are now being exacerbated by climate change. The biophysical and topographic features of the country, along with its levels of poverty, make it highly vulnerable to such events. The report on *'Economics of Climate Change in Honduras: Key Messages 2016'* (United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - CEPAL 2016) outlines some projections and impacts of climate indicators in different sectors of the economy. The abovementioned impacts denote the relevance and need for immediate actions of adaptation and mitigation in Honduras. The priority for the Republic of Honduras, whose Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) account for less than 0.1 per cent of the global total, is undoubtedly climate change adaptation. However, in line with its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), designed and presented under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the country is also committed to supporting efforts to combat climate change, under the principle of joint but differentiated responsibilities and of contributing mitigation measures.

The country has started to report these actions through multiple international commitments signed by the government, as well as through the diverse national platforms and institutional structures that have been put in place. Honduras ratified the Paris Agreement (PA) in September 2016, thereby turning its intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) into its nationally determined contribution (NDC). Article 13 of the Paris Agreement provides for an Enhanced Transparency Framework that builds on mutual trust and confidence and promote the effective implementation of the actions identified under NDCs. It requires setting up new transparency governance structures, developing and implementing measuring and reporting methodologies, and updating, implementing, and integrating new data and information flows with pre-defined periodicity. This transition towards data and information sourcing and management presents a significant barrier for many countries. The Paris Agreement brings additional responsibilities in terms of information and knowledge management, mainly regarding improving scientific information available. This requirement is aligned with the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF), in particular, Article 14 (h) which emphasizes on *'Strengthening data, information and knowledge systems, education and public awareness'* Likewise, education, training and public awareness on climate change are anchored in Article 6 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and in Article 10 (e) of the Kyoto Protocol. The content in these articles are in accordance with the creation of information management processes with the purpose to guarantee:

1. The systematic, accurate, relevant and transparent monitoring of the reports of national contributions.
2. The provision of information and data that feedback to support the design of policies and actions for the improvement of social, economic and environmental conditions of the country.
3. The implementation of an official climate change monitoring system as a reference point of information in the country.

Honduras is stepping up its efforts to measure and curb greenhouse gas emissions. The challenge is that the country lacks a consolidated monitoring system for climate change indicators from which NDC reports can be generated. There are no defined climate change indicators which can be monitored over time, nor are there any operational guidelines, protocols and logistical arrangements for reporting, monitoring and verifying climate change data. There is a need, therefore, for the country to establish an official entity for managing a consolidated monitoring system for climate change indicators from which NDC reports can be generated. In the same way, it is necessary to build technical and logistical capacities for the efficient

management of the system, as well as institutional arrangements to facilitate the integration of information and ensure its sustainability. In this context, CBIT will create an integrated monitoring unit of climate change, which will be able to comply with the three areas mentioned above.

2) *the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects,*

Climate Change Institutions in Honduras:

Honduras has developed a number of institutions and organizations to manage natural resources and protect the environment. The first efforts on management of natural resources in Honduras dates back to 1997, with the establishment of the National Environmental Indicators System (SINIA) and the National System of Environmental Indicators (MIAH), for measuring the performance of management of natural resources. The system was created to gather, record, harmonize, store, systematize and disseminate the environmental information generated and gathered through research, the system of environmental impact permits and assessments, environmental controls and other instruments and to make it available to others. Efforts were also made to define 29 indicators; however, in recent years, their original intended use has been lost, and they are now reduced to the role of providing technical support to the Secretariat's Spatial Data Infrastructure (IDE). Information on the indicators module is available from: <https://acchonduras.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/sistematizacion-modulo-indicadores-ambientales-de-honduras-22-11-12.pdf>

In 2011, with funding from the European Union through the PROCOREDOR project, MiAmbiente created the **Regional Centre for Environmental Documentation and Interpretation (CREDIA)**, designed as a dynamic and comprehensive platform for the management and administration of socioenvironmental information on the biological corridor of the Honduran Caribbean. It was implemented via five strategic components (www.credia.hn) with the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Observatory as its core element. Since its creation, and until 2013, it received support to design and produce a set of 118 development and environmental indicators; the breadth of these indicators and the lack of financial resources since 2014 meant, however, that the Observatory's work was unable to expand further.

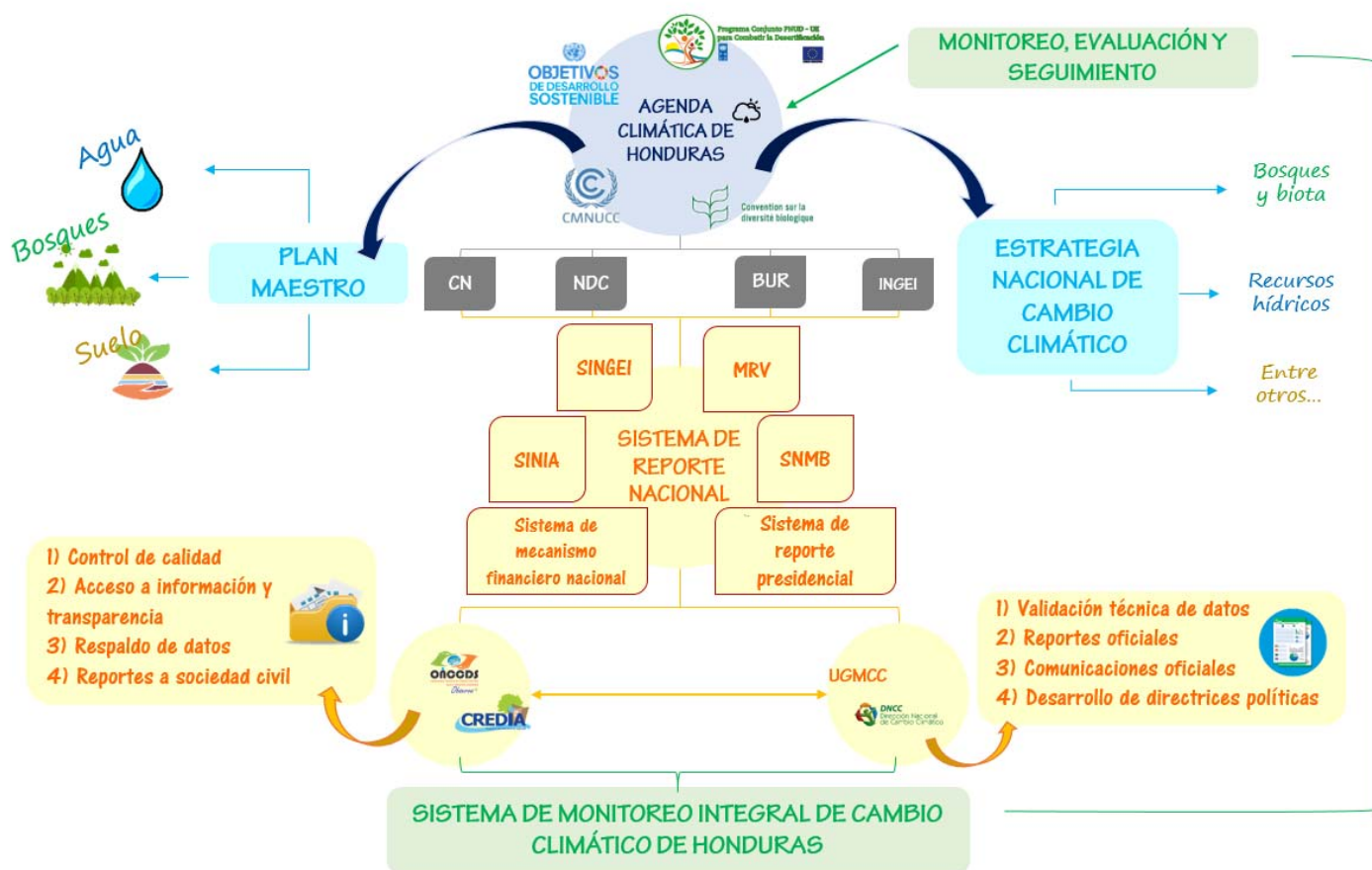
In 2014, the "Facing up to Climate Risks in Water Resources in Honduras" project, financed by the Adaptation Fund, and partnered by the Honduran Institute for Soil Sciences (IHCIT-UNAH), conducted a study to identify socioeconomic indicators of climate change. This initiative was boosted by the interest of MiAmbiente to increase the importance of climate change at the country level by making more evident the impact of current actions and investments related to climate change. In 2015, through the above project, MiAmbiente signed a Letter of Understanding with CREDIA to create the National Observatory for Climate Change for Sustainable Development [Honduras \(ONCC-DS website: <http://observa.miambiente.gob.hn/>\)](http://observa.miambiente.gob.hn/)

In addition to the above efforts, there are other initiatives/platforms targeting to coordinate climate/environmental information in Honduras. This underscores the complexity of management and integration of information which also require a proper link. For instance, the following systems of information are linked directly to the National Directorate of Climate Change of Honduras:

- **National environmental information system (SINIA).** Platform linked to MiAmbiente whose main objective is to monitor compliance with the environmental agenda of Honduras. The linkage of the national reporting system with the SINIA will be given by the periodic report of the actions of the climate agenda of Honduras.

- **The National Safeguards Information System (SNIS)**. To date, progress has been made in the creation of the national system of safeguards for the REDD+ mechanism. The other sectors must work on the subject of safeguards (Energy, industry and agriculture), which together will integrate the SNIS. There is currently a Green Climate Fund Readiness proposal to expand the SNIS to all climate change sectors within mitigation and adaptation.
- **System of National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases (SINGEI)**. Honduras is currently preparing its Third National Communication and its Initial Biennial Update Report (BUR1) thus, the development of its GHG Inventories. The country intends to set up a GHG Inventory System (SINGEI) with the purpose to ensuring the periodic generation and update of GHG Inventory to the Convention.
- **Presidential reporting system**. Responsible for monitoring the compliance with the Climate Agenda and the Water, Forest and Soil Masterplan.
- **System for monitoring public expenditures for climate action in Honduras (SMGPCH)**. In 2015, Honduras carried out a review of its public climate expenses, for which the country developed a classifier of climate expenditure and the methodology for the review of expenditures. This resulted in the creation of the SMGPCH with the objective to standardize the information generated for the review and creation of corresponding budget codes.
- **Open Government Platform**. The main purpose of the platform is to help creating a national plan of climate change actions with citizens' participation (national public process views, such as national plans and programs).
- **National System for Rainforest Monitoring (SNMB)**. A national system for monitoring, reporting and verifying (MRV) rainforests is being built, currently in the phase of preparation through a REDD+ project in Honduras. Likewise, the MRV systems being designed for sustainable livestock, sustainable coffee and efficient stoves NAMAs would also provide insights for the SNMB.

The following Chart presents an overview of the existing institutional structures, and shows the complexity of elements (actors, instruments, variables of measurement, and structures of follow-up, among others) that are involved in the monitoring of the climate agenda of Honduras. This structure underscores the importance of establishing an Integrated Monitoring Unit of Climate Change to support a more coordinated and synchronized Climate Monitoring System.



It should be noted that existing platforms such as the National Environmental Information System (SINIA) and the National Climate Change Observatory for Sustainable Development (ONCC-DS) have the political support of the Government. However, their institutional frameworks and capacities for generating and managing climate knowledge require strengthening. In the recent past, there have been a number of consolidated efforts to have the ONCC-DS as an official specialist body for gathering, supporting and safeguarding the climate change information generated by official sources. This process was supported by various initiatives (such as the Adaptation Fund Project, the Marine Coastal Project, the Sustainable Livestock Farming Project, the United Nations collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation Project (UN-REDD+) and the Third National Communication Project) being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and MiAmbiente with funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Adaptation Fund, UN-REDD, and the World Bank’s Foreign Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).

Realizing the Climate Agenda of Honduras through an Improved Monitoring System.

In consideration of the commitments of Honduras (NDC) assumed at the UNFCCC⁹, the country set the route of strategic planning to organize and issue the guidelines for compliance, through the creation of ‘The Climate Agenda of Honduras’ in April, 2017. The program structure of the climate agenda foresees a monitoring system supported by the ONCC-DS, a monitoring plan for environmental and climate targets

⁹ The country’s NDCs in the mitigation front, include, among others: 15% Reduction of emissions with respect to the BAU scenario by 2030; Reforesting 1 million hectares by 2030; and Reducing the consumption of firewood by 39%

and the use of tools and instruments of information management (portals). The climate agenda proposes that the monitoring system should be based and supported by a Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC) and the ONCC-DS. The ONCC-DS is expected to generate and manage the information for periodic monitoring of climate indicators on adaptation and mitigation. This monitoring system has not been set up, to date. There have been several attempts made to support the ONCC-DS since 2015. These attempts, however, have encountered a series of obstacles among the following:

- Difficulty in the consensus and clarity to carry out the analysis of alignment, linkages, identification and official validation of indicators and their variables that follow and respond to the needs required by the country.
- Lack of clarity regarding the formats of protocols of measurement for each of these indicators.
- Lack of technical personnel who has the specialized capacities in monitoring of indicators of climate change. The country is also facing the need of updating all the technological platform of ONCC-DS.
- Absence of mechanisms and institutional arrangements to facilitate the availability and exchange of specialized information regarding the required climate change variables.

In 2016, Honduras submitted a request to the Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN) to strengthen the ONCC-DS and received support for the development of a Response Plan as a first step. This document, produced by the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre (CATIE), one of the CTCN Network Partners identified the necessity of enhancing Honduras' climate change transparency system, and stressed key gaps aligned with the obstacles highlighted above. The document provided a detailed plan of activities and description of the technical team necessary to strengthen the ONCC-DS and this information was used as input to this CBIT proposal.

In the Second National Communication of the Government of Honduras to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the country identified the following main areas to be strengthened:

- Information management. The report states that the flow of information is limited, which is confined to technical but always segmented information.
- Technical indicators. There is need to develop technical ecological, environmental and sustainability indicators which are fundamental for the monitoring and follow-up of the programs and projects that are being implemented, or that will be implemented in the future through the National Direction of Climate Change (DNCC).
- Participative research. The report stresses the importance of introducing the subject of climate change at all levels to improve the evidence needed for proper decision making on climate change. Finally, it is necessary to prepare the technical analysis required to formulate standards to encourage appropriate decision-making.

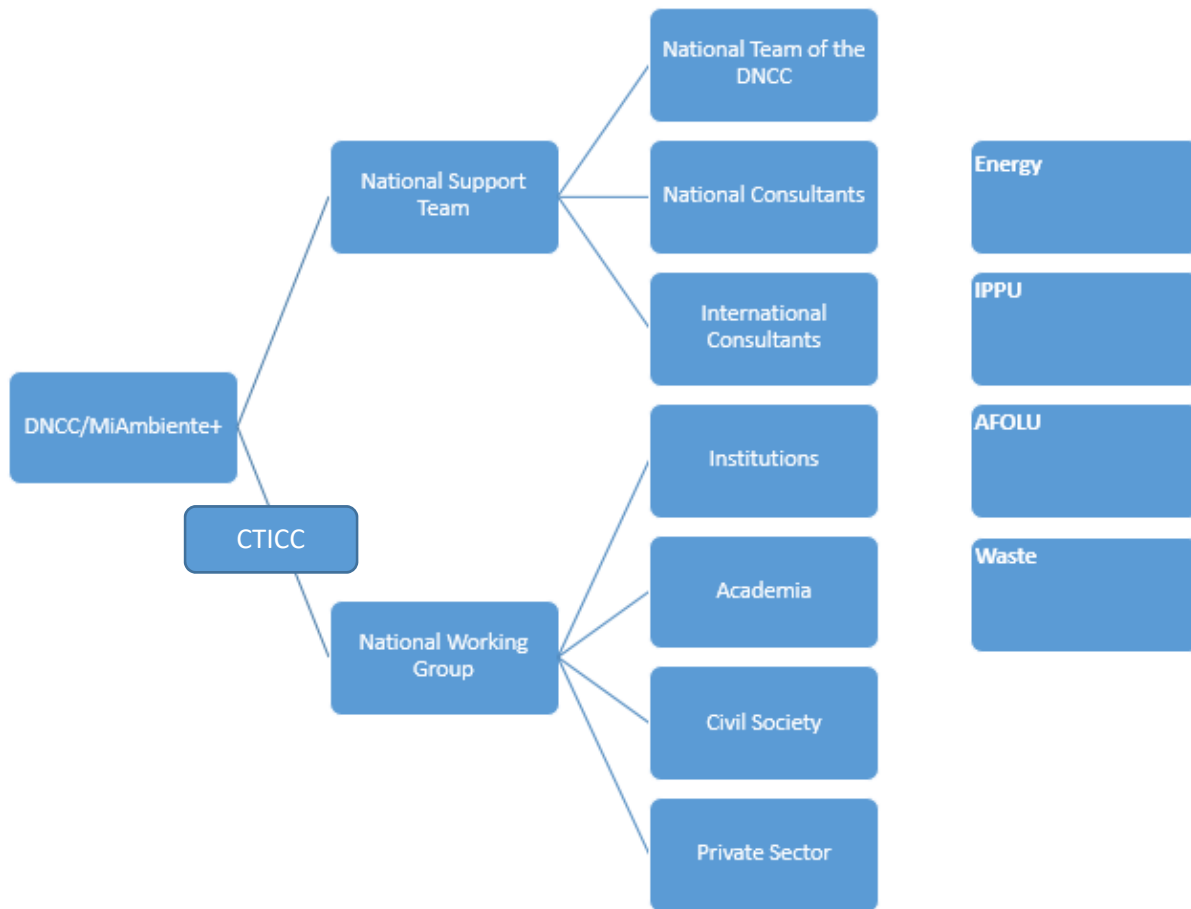
Honduras also conducted a Technology Needs Assessment (TNA), which was recently approved and it is currently on the phase of designing its layout. In this document, Honduras has developed its mitigation and adaptation technology action plans. The country has prioritized 3 sectors (energy, agriculture, and water resources) and a range of technologies for each of them. The identified technologies are related to measures, practices or options for mitigation and adaptation. None of them are linked to monitoring activities of climate change indicators and information management (central objective of this CBIT proposal). However, the opportunity to monitor impacts on adaptation or mitigation is enabled by the implementation of these technologies for developing GHG emission indicators, for instance.

So far, the current institutional arrangements for the transparency framework are focused on the elaboration of National Communications (NCs). The scheme for this work was centralized on MiAmbiente as a focal point of the UNFCCC, through its National Directorate of Climate Change (DNCC).

The inputs were collected by the National Working Group in each of the prioritized sectors, which were defined in the National Climate Change Strategy (ENCC). The National Working Group was formed by government institutions, academia, civil society, and private sector stakeholders. The National Working Group was the ultimate responsible of the generation of information and they were also in charge of creating the reports to be presented to the DNCC at MiAmbiente.

The work of the National Working Group was supported by the Technical Support Team, which had a role of validating the accuracy of the information. The Technical Support Team was formed by the technical team of the DNCC as well as national consultants, who greatly supported the institutions that led each sector. In addition, international consultants were hired to guide the process and to advise on the final drafting and presentation of the communications. Even though the National Working Group was the ultimate responsible of the projects, the roles of national and international consultants as part of the Technical Support Team were key to achieve the expected results, as they were the only experts in the projects at hand. There was not a defined structure or procedure for quality assurance nor were there any monitoring protocols of the process.

The following chart presents the scheme in which National Communications have been built in the country:



The Third National Communication project includes the development of the Third National Communication project itself, as well as the First BUR and the SINGEI. As stated before, the SINGEI has been built mainly thanks to the support of international consultants and it is currently in the process of validation by the National Support Team.

After the technical validation by the National Support Team, the final approval is done by MiAmbiente, following the provisions of the Climate Change Law.

The SINGEI is expected to be implemented by 2020 by the National Direction of Climate Change (DNCC) from MiAmbiente, which will do so through the proposed UGMCC and the ONCC-DS (Output 1.1.1). The implementation consists on strengthening the deficiencies in the sectorial dependencies / involved institutions of the AFOLU, energy, IPPU, and waste sectors. With the SINGEI project, the involved sectors/parties of each aforementioned sector have been identified and the appropriate processes for the preparation of the next inventories have been defined.

The Third National Communication of Honduras makes reference to the creation of an updated Report of National Circumstances, the creation of the Inventory of Greenhouse Gases, and the creation of Reports of the Impacts and Vulnerability Assessments of the Mitigation and Adaptation Actions. None of the activities of this Third National Communication or the first BUR is directly related to the systematization of any MRV transparency initiatives, nor do they refer to any institutional arrangement created or strengthened in which the CBIT reporting activities could be built on. Moreover, none of the activities

refers to developing MRV capabilities that will remain in the government of the country once the National Communications or the BURs are created.

Among the few inputs from Honduras' Third National Communication and first BUR that could be used as an arrangement to build the work of this CBIT proposal, are those that relate to the efforts that are being undertaken to create indicators to measure the performance and impact of actions/activities put in place for adaptation and mitigation to climate change.¹⁰ These current efforts include the creation of an initial list of indicators in the following working areas in the country:

- 1) Indicators for the Inventory of GHG
- 2) Indicators for Water Security
- 3) Indicators for Soil Use and Management

The country has advanced the most on the Soil and Use Management indicators. In order to develop this work, an interinstitutional team was created between technical teams of the Ministry of the Environment and the Institute of Forestry. Currently, however, these indicators remain in a preliminary version and there has been no follow-up action for their consensus and implementation mechanisms. There is also a lack of identification of indicators with a comprehensive and strategic vision of the country with respect to international commitments, as the current sets of indicators only focus on three specific thematic areas. These sets of indicators will be revised through this CBIT proposal and they will serve as the basis of arrangements to build up the reporting work of the proposed Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC).

Given the ONCC-DS' importance for the country, and the limitations identified, the CBIT project seeks to not only create the Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC), but to also support the functions of the ONCC-DS, under CREDIA, for coordinating the realization of Honduras' Climate Agenda objectives.

3) ***the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area¹¹ strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project.***

Honduras has a climate agenda that requires a monitoring system, and the said agenda is a response to the international commitments ratified by the country, including the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. In order to finalize the monitoring system of the climate agenda, this proposal targets to create an integrated monitoring system of climate change for Honduras. The creation of the Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change for Honduras aims to improve the generation, management, and interpretation of climate and social environmental information with the purpose to allow Honduras to have a monitoring system for its Climate Agenda. The Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change will be created with the purpose of linking and articulating the many climate change information platforms in the country mentioned above, in order to have a national reporting system of integrated/cross-cutting climate actions. The system will systematically generate, process, report and facilitate the climate variabilities and will serve as the country's official source of climate information for national and international reports. In this regard, the project proposes to create alignment and coherence with national instruments and indicators, which guide Honduras' interests and strategic approaches.

¹⁰ *Indicadores de cambio climático con enfoque socioeconómico. Proyecto Fondo de Adaptación. 2014.*

¹¹ For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

The current institutional arrangement for climate change in Honduras is weak due to the uncoordinated roles and functions of the different actors, lack of buy-in of different data users/providers; and lack of an integrated climate data and information system into a single national reporting system. This proposal will address these challenges by supporting the development of common protocols for accessing and uploading climate data and information, establishing a unified data mechanism system, and building technical capacities of personnel to support the functions of the UGMCC.

With the proposed alternative scenario, the following barriers are expected to be overcome:

Uncoordinated roles and functions of different actors: It is expected that with the CBIT proposal, the required institutional arrangements will be established so that the binding agencies for the generation and administration of climate information have clear coordination mechanisms. The proposal contemplates signing of institutional agreements, operating guidelines and protocols for the exchange of information, as well as management manuals for accessing and providing inputs to databases, among others. Likewise, the establishment of a general matrix where the information of climate change indicators is stored..

Lack of buy-in of data users / providers. Via the establishment of institutional arrangements and creation of operating guidelines and protocols, it is expected to clearly define responsibilities and to clarify the mechanisms and procedures for access and exchange of information agreed upon and supported by the competent entities. In addition, the proposal contemplates the establishment of a formal program for the strengthening of capacities and exchange of information. This is also expected to improve the willingness of stakeholders to participate in this process.

Lack of an integrated climate data and information system into a single national reporting system. The proposal contemplates a centralized monitoring system that will count with the public sector as the responsible agent for issuing the country reports to the Conventions, working closely with and obtaining technical advice from an independent entity from the Honduran government, which will issue reports to the civil society in a single online integrated platform.

The need for resources is evident, not only for the structuring of the integral monitoring unit but also for the provision of human and technological support for the monitoring system. In order to guarantee the design and functional implementation of the Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change of Honduras, the following Outcome proposed under the CBIT proposal, is supported by five (5) project Outputs:

Outcome 1: An Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change for Honduras (between Observatory – ONCC-DS- under CREDIA – (an autonomous public entity)- & UGMCC under the Secretariat) designed and operationalized

1.1.1 A centralized monitoring system for improved data access and information management established in the Unit of Monitoring Management of Climate Change (UGMCC)

1.1.2 A set of country climate change specific indicators of the monitoring system developed

1.1.3 A national financial mechanism for the operation of the Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change developed

- 1.1.4 Operating guidelines, protocols and logistical arrangements for reporting, monitoring and verifying climate change data developed between UGMCC and ONCC-DS
- 1.1.5 A formal program to strengthen capacities and exchange information developed.

Output 1.1.1 A centralized monitoring system for improved data access and information management established in the Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC)

The current institutional arrangement for climate change in Honduras is weak due to the uncoordinated roles and functions of the different actors and the complexity of data integration and management among other reasons. Therefore, the system will be operationalized through two structures with coordinated and complementary actions, with their respective roles defined as follows:

1. The Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC), part of the DNCC in the Honduran government structure, will become the official voice and liaison of the country domestically and internationally in the matter. Although the UGMCC has already been designed, it is lacking its juridical constitution so it is currently inoperative. Once this institution becomes operative, it will be strengthened to become the official liaison of the country between national and international institutions with different competences regarding climate change management and the entity responsible for issuing official government reports on the subject, supported by the ONCC-DS.
2. The National Observatory for Climate Change (ONCC-DS), is an independent entity from the Honduran government's Ministry of the Environment (MiAmbiente) and its National Directorate of Climate Change. Its main stakeholders come from the private sector, NGOs, and civil society. Nevertheless, this entity has a direct link to the government as it acts as the technical and scientific advisor to the UGMCC. The ONCC-DS has already been created but it has only appointed one professional as part of its juridical constitution, so it is not fully operative at this point.

Once it becomes fully operative, the ONCC-DS will serve as an independent panel of scientific and technical experts, which will include several members of the Honduran civil society following a transparency scheme, and it will mainly focus on Quality Control reviews of the information provided by the UGMCC.

One of the main benefits of having the ONCC-DS as an entity that is independent from the government is to guarantee the continuity of a sustained transfer of technical knowledge from the private and civil society sectors to the Honduran government agencies involved. The expected result is for the public sector to count with an independent data storage of the progress on the indicators and to build technical capacities over time, regardless of any changes of staff or turnovers in political parties in power.

In a nutshell, the coordinated workflow proposed for the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS is summarized as follows in terms of their main interconnected activities:

1. The appointed Ministries, Secretariats and Institutions, including the ones from NDC prioritized sectors, will be in charge of the measurements of the indicators of their substantive areas of expertise.

2. The UGMCC will gather and run a first technical validation (Quality Assurance revision) of the information from all of these entities and then it will share it with the ONCC-DS.
3. The ONCC-DS will run a Quality Control revision of the information via the input received from its members and the Honduran civil society, following a transparency scheme.
4. The ONCC-DS will incorporate its comments on the information provided and it will send it back to the UGMCC for it to run a second Quality Assurance revision and to issue a final approval.
5. The UGMCC will create the enhanced official progress reports to be presented nation-wide and internationally (i.e. National Communications and BURs). In parallel, the ONCC-DS will periodically train the members of the UGMCC so that the technical capacities remain in public sector officials over time.

The following table presents the objectives, internal structure, and functions/duties expected from each of the entities in more detail.

Objective	Internal Structure	Functions/Duties
Climate Change Management and Monitoring Unit (UGMCC)		
<p>To issue the enhanced official reports of the country to each of the conventions to be presented nation-wide and internationally. These reports will be based on the indicators required for each convention and managed by the existing platforms of information management.</p>	<p>This Unit will organize, compile, and run a Quality Assurance review of the information from the following existing platforms of information management of the Honduran government: - The National System of Monitoring of Forests (SNMB), Information System of Protection (SIS), Monitoring, Report and Verification (MRV), National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases (SINGEI), National System of Environmental Information (SINIA), the System of National Financial Mechanism, and the System of Presidential Reporting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Creation of National Communications and BURs</u> • <u>Government’s Quality Assurance Committee:</u> Technical validation (First Quality Assurance review) and endorsement of climate change data provided by Ministries, Secretariats, and Institutions in their respective substantive areas of expertise. • <u>General Manager of the Monitoring System:</u> Official link of the integrated monitoring system of climate change among the several stakeholders; Official liaison and promotor of internal articulation of the processes of exchange and access of data among each of the platforms of information management established at the DNCC. (The UGMCC will be the official liaison that channels the information to be sent to the ONCC-DS for Quality Control review). Final review and endorsement (Second Quality Assurance

		<p>review) of the comments and suggestions made by the ONCC-DS to climate change data.</p>
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National Observatory of Climate Change for sustainable development (ONCC-DS)

Objectives	Internal Structure	Functions / Duties
<p>To provide independent scientific and technical assistance to the UGMCC in terms of climate change data.</p> <p>To support the decision making on sustainable development via quality control revisions of climate change indicators.</p> <p>To issue national reports to be presented domestically on the status of climate and social environmental factors of the country.</p> <p>To integrate to the data platform, the national reports to the conventions in order for them to become available to Honduran public, as part of the transparency scheme contemplated.</p>	<p>The Observatory is organized with respect to the National Strategy of Climate Change according to the following sectors, including representatives of Professional Boards from each of these sectors: Forests and biodiversity, water resources, coastal marine resources, human health, risk management, energy, agriculture, soils and food safety sectors. (The climate change indicators are to be defined based on the aforementioned sectors).</p> <p>The composition of the ONCC-DS does not directly include officials from relevant institutions according to the sectors identified in the NDCs. Nevertheless, the National Boards of Biological Monitoring of Marine-Coastal Resources and Biodiversity will be part of the ONCC-DS, and such Boards include government officials among their members.</p> <p>These public sector’s stakeholders will not represent a majority among the members of the entity nor will they take</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Quality Control reviewers:</u> To act as guardian of transparency and quality control of data. • <u>Public Disclosure of Information:</u> To facilitate access to climate information of the country, strengthening transparency. To elaborate and disclose climate reports to civil society • <u>Database and Data Storage:</u> To ensure the support of data, acting as repository of data physically and electronically. • <u>Training:</u> To promote and highlight the areas of knowledge management in terms of climate change to the UGMCC and civil society. • <u>Support the implementation of prioritized strategies set</u>

	leadership positions within the ONCC-DS as it is intended to remain transparent and independent from the government.	<u>out in the TNA.</u>
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Through this dual-structure Integrated Monitoring System, the NDC monitoring, reporting and verification for a sound participative Enhanced Transparency Framework in Honduras, will be guaranteed once CBIT support allows its correct functioning.

Through each of these integrated structures both private and public relevant actors are guaranteed their articulation in an organized and effective manner.

Activities under this Output will aim to have a consolidated document for the formation of observatories and monitoring units of climate change, mapping of actors and national institutions, and programs and laws which the Integrated Monitoring System could articulate with.

- Review of international obligations, institutional arrangements, climate modulation approaches;
- Identify the scope and objectives proposed for the ONCC-DS and the UGMCC.
- Map key actors, complementing the work already started by MiAmbiente and CREDIA.
- Present recommendations of stakeholders for organizing an inter-agency scientific panel (ONCC-DS) of the Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change.
- Define the ground plan and the profiles of professionals required for the operation of the Integrated System for Monitoring of Climate Change of Honduras.
- Establish the institutional arrangements for the hiring of personnel.
- Develop procurement procedures for the Integrated System for Monitoring Climate Change of Honduras.
- Prepare a national report for a centralized monitoring system for Honduras, for approval by the Minister of the Environment.

The short-term goal of this established monitoring system and its database and data storage components is to have a reliable source of information when the country aims to create the enhanced GHG inventories and NDC reports, under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, and not to start gathering the data from scratch, as it has been the case in the past. This approach follows the Tracking Roadmap provided by the NDC Partnership, which exposed the measures that could be implemented to achieve the NDCs back in 2015.

This Output is directly related to the Proposed Programming priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06): Activities to strengthen national institutions (18.C).

Output 1.1.2: A set of country specific indicators of climate change for the monitoring system developed

The UGMCC with the support of the ONCC-DS will perform the implementation of the following activities, which will result in Honduras obtaining a proposed set of climate change indicators (containing description, periodicity, information required, and entities in charge of the collection). The indicators will support reporting, monitoring and verification of Honduras' NDCs.

- Review the bibliography of existing proposals of indicators already carried out by CREDIA and MiAmbiente.
- Provide recommendations for the objectives and scope of indicators undertaken
- Review of best practices and lessons learned from the creation of NDC indicators of active member countries in the region of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform
- Propose key actors for the definition of indicators
- Identify preliminary recommendation of indicators of mitigation and adaptation, (including considerations of gender).
- Prioritize indicators following the objectives of the Integrated System for Monitoring Climate Change of Honduras, and the availability of information in the country.
- Organize a workshop for the presentation and discussion of indicators with the main actors of the sectors engaged.
- Provide final recommendations of indicators, characteristics, periodicity for gathering information, and the actors and institutions in charge of measuring them.

This Output is directly related to the Proposed Programming priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06): Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance (18.E).

Output 1.1.3: A national financial mechanism for the operation of the Integrated Monitoring System of Climate Change developed

Since the monitoring system is currently inoperative, it is necessary to create and enable a financial mechanism for its long-term operation. The project will identify options of national funds for this purpose and to present them to the corresponding entities, for approval and implementation. The activities of this Output include:

- Funding the juridical constitution and launching of the operations of the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS.
- Hiring technical and administrative staff of both entities (UGMCC and ONCC-DS). Their formal working structure and workflow among technical personnel and with the rest of the external stakeholders is to be defined.
- Identifying and proposing possible sources of self-funding for the ONCC-DS in order for it to work independently to guarantee transparency and objectivity.
- Creation of a legally binding document to institutionalize the process of acquisition of grants to support the operations of the UGMCC.
- Implementation of a national financial mechanism, between the Ministry of the Environment and the Secretariat of Finance. This mechanism will unify the current budgets allocated to individual programs such as:
 - Payments for Results of REDD+
 - Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) for:
 - Fuel-Efficient Cook Stoves
 - Sustainable Chain of Custody for Cattle Breeding
 - Sustainable Chain of Custody for Coffee Farming

This Output is directly related to the Proposed Programming priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06): Activities to strengthen national institutions (18.A).

1.1.4 Operating guidelines, protocols and logistical arrangements for data collection, reporting, monitoring and verifying climate change data developed between UGMCC and ONCC-DS

Through this Output, a set of operating guidelines, protocols for each indicator and logistical arrangement will be presented.

The activities of **operating guidelines and protocols** for MRV of climate change data between UGMCC and ONCC-DS include:

- Review of examples of protocols of indicators at the national and international level. These protocols include those of data collection and management, as well as the analysis and selection of country-specific emission factors, and activity data.
- Adaptation of the protocol to the local context
- Review of Protocols on behalf of stakeholders
- Workshop on the presentation and standardization of protocols
- Recommendations for a follow-up mechanism and update of the indicators.
- Publication of operating guidelines and protocols to guarantee the sustainability of the operations of the monitoring systems over time

MRV data will include but it will not be limited to tracking of the NDCs under both mitigation and adaptation as well as tracking of support needed and received. The operation and implementation of guidelines of operative protocols will include inputs from relevant ministries and public sector stakeholders through the UGMCC. These relevant stakeholders include but are not limited to those involved in the SNMB, MRV, SINGEI, SINIA, National Financial Mechanism system, Presidential Reporting System.

Logistical arrangements are the means of the actions required in the current government structure of Honduras to go from theory to practice to make its climate change monitoring system fully operable. Briefly, these involve acquiring and installing the appropriate monitoring instruments.

The monitoring system will be equipped with an electronic platform that guarantees its operation over time. The electronic platform will compile, manage, and house a comprehensive set of existing primary sources of information. These primary sources will include those provided by the SINGEI as well as those coming from MRV for REDD+, MRV for NAMAs, efficient stoves, sustainable coffee (NAMA Facility), Restoration of 1 Million Hectares, among others.

The instruments include:

- Appropriate software for supporting Digital Communication Platform (design and operation of websites, design of GEO portals, online information catalogues on digital libraries, social media management, and databases, creation of institutional email accounts, etc.)
- Acquisition of hardware and basic office equipment.

The acquisition of the equipment is made in order to enhance data management, which will help establishing both the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS and making them fully operative in terms of data management and storage. Therefore, the proposed hardware and software will be housed at both the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS and their maintenance and sustainability of the equipment will be responsibility of MiAmbiente and the ONCC-DS, respectively. The acquisition of equipment will also enhance capacity building strategies in the country in terms of the personnel that will be trained on their

appropriate use (Output 1.1.5) and it's aligned with prioritized strategies of the country's Technology Needs Assessment (TNA), which states that currently the equipment subject to being potentially available for the use of the UGMCC and ONCC-DS are obsolete.

The type of data to be stored and managed in the proposed equipment will include at least: Indicators' databases, Climate change publications' library, Reports issued by the ONCC-DS, Climate change projections, Database for vulnerability indexes, Interactive platforms for different actors and Interfaces that enable the interaction with other information platforms nationally and internationally.

This Output is directly related to the Proposed Programming priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06): Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance (18.D).

Output 1.1.5: A formal program for the strengthening of capacities and exchange of information developed

It is essential to build capacities in the country for the management, administration and follow-up of climate change monitoring. The experience to date shows the weakness and gaps of professionals as regards training in: Monitoring of indicators, management of database, systems of geographic information, technological platforms for information management, reference framework of the needs to report to the UNFCCC, methodologies of measurement, among others.

The training program for strengthening capacities targets the staff of the Integrated System for Monitoring Climate Change of Honduras, as well as the technical personnel of partner institutions and beneficiaries of the system. The above mentioned is aimed to increase the qualitative effects of institutional synergies and to increase the number of professionals with specific capacities on monitoring climate variables.

- Identification of gaps and training needs for compliance with climate change commitments of Honduras.
- Creation of a platform for the management of the training program. This activity intends to open the space for interaction (online platform) to recruit and follow-up the training program.
- Execution of the virtual and in-person training programs.

Based on the professional profiles for the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS to be defined via Output 1.1.1, a proposal of a training program on information management of climate change will be developed in detail.

The following table presents the scope of the training program and the relationship of the topics to the gaps identified as presented on the baseline scenario section of the document:

Gaps Identified	Training Topics
Honduras struggles to have clarity regarding the formats of protocols for the measurement of the indicators.	International obligations, including Honduras' NDCs General knowledge on monitoring, assessment and follow-up in climate change issues in terms of data analysis for indicators' reporting
The country is facing the need of updating all the technological platform of ONCC-DS.	Specific knowledge regarding technology for observing and assessing patterned modifications of climate change:

	management of equipment, instruments, information systems, protocols, software for implementation, and databases, etc.
The Second National Communication stresses the importance of introducing the subject of climate change at all levels to improve the evidence needed for proper decision making on climate change.	Traditional knowledge for climate change monitoring. General planning framework for observing and assessing patterned modifications of climate change.
There are no mechanisms and institutional arrangements to facilitate the availability and exchange of specialized information regarding the required climate change variables.	Exchange of experiences at national and international level

The expected overall result of this training strategy is to teach and establish a unified climate change terminology in terms of monitoring and reporting among all the stakeholders involved. In order to accomplish this goal, the concepts of the unified terminology will be approached and taught in a holistic way.

The training will be provided by the professionals appointed by the Board of the ONCC-DS and the recipients of such trainings will be the government officials of the UGMCC, including those of The National System of Monitoring of Forests (SNMB), Information System of Protection (SIS), Monitoring, Report and Verification (MRV), System of National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases (SINGEI), National System of Environmental Information (SINIA) and the System of National Financial Mechanism and the System of Presidential Reporting.

In addition, the sources of the training will encompass Honduras' NDCs, the country's international environmental obligations, and the Operating guidelines, protocols and logistical arrangements for reporting, monitoring and verifying climate change data developed between UGMCC and ONCC-DS (Output 1.1.4).

The training sessions will be provided via in-person workshops and webinars arranged by topics to be covered.

This Output is directly related to the Proposed Programming priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06): Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance (18.E).

The following table presents the way in which the gaps identified in the baseline will be overcome with the proposed alternative scenario, taking into account the three-year timeframe and guaranteeing that all of the necessary actors and systems be established in time to ensure project completion:

Identified Gap	How the CBIT project will overcome it
Difficulty in the consensus and clarity to carry out the analysis of alignment, linkages, identification and official validation of indicators and their variables that follow and	It is expected that a formal and intense process, such as this CBIT-GEF project, will facilitate spaces for consensus building for the unification of parameters regarding what data should be

respond to the needs required by the country.	monitored. The promptly execution of the institutional arrangement that will make the ONCC-DS fully operative, as part of the activities of Output 1.1.1, will be key to achieve an effective participation of relevant stakeholders from the earliest stages of the project.
Lack of clarity regarding the formats of protocols of measurement for each of these indicators.	Output 1.1.3 will focus on the creation and validation of protocols of measurement of the selected indicators by the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS, a prompt execution of the logistical arrangement of Output 1.1.1 will be key for the establishment of the protocols in time.
Lack of technical personnel who has the specialized capacities in monitoring of indicators of climate change. The country is also facing the need of updating all the technological platform of ONCC-DS.	Training activities of Output 1.1.5 will focus on building the necessary capacities in monitoring of indicators of climate change. The trainings will take place periodically and they will start happening from the earliest stages of the process. The logistical arrangements set forth under Output 1.1.4 will focus on acquiring the required hardware and software to equip the ONCC-DS. Equipping the ONCC-DS will also take place at the earliest stages of the project to ensure it has the means to operate accordingly.
Absence of mechanisms and institutional arrangements to facilitate the availability and exchange of specialized information regarding the required climate change variables.	Output 1.1.1 will focus on the creation of the required mechanisms and institutional arrangements. Output 1.1.1 will be the first to be addressed, thus guaranteeing that the gap is overcome from the earliest stages of the project.

4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing;

The CBIT programme is designed to improve mandatory reporting of signatories of the UNFCCC, and in particular reporting under the Paris Agreement (2015). As such this project is financed on full agreed cost basis. In the case of this programme, eligible activities have been described in the GEF document Programming directions for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (GEF/C.50/06). The activities of this project are consistent with the scope of the programming directions. Co-financing is not a necessary requirement for this project, however the Government of Honduras through the Coordinator Office of Projects (OCP) has anticipated to contribute to the project with an in-kind co-financing of 150,000 USD, considering the availability of 3 technical personnel, and this has been included in table C.

The efforts made by Honduras towards the implementation of the integrated monitoring system of climate change have been long demonstrated by the commitments taken to comply with the requirements of reporting under the UNFCCC. The new elements contained in this CBIT proposal towards the achievement of the NDCs of the PA, show the motivation of Honduras to proactively start the preparation of the broader scope for the current national reporting framework. Since this, it is understood that the NDCs not only

present challenges on the ambition of mitigation actions, but on the transparency and the clarity of the information provided in terms of GHG emissions and the progress of implementation, tracked by the proposed set of indicators, once developed.

This proposal aims to clarify the current landscape existing in Honduras regarding transparency and the gaps that should be closed with this CBIT project. The gaps for this country are specifically in the fields of weak institutional arrangements, a lack of a comprehensive and country-specific set of indicators; the nonexistence of a financial mechanism and logistical arrangements to ensure the sustainability of the operations of the proposed institutions over time, as well as capacity building within the UGMCC, ONCC-DS, and key stakeholders, and they are addressed by the five Outputs of this CBIT proposal.

5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and

This action proposed is of great importance for INDC of Honduras, as it is explicitly mentioned in the document submitted to the UNFCCC by the country: “One of the four pillars of the Directorate of Climate Change of the Secretariat of MiAmbiente is the Management of Knowledge. Honduras intends, through the Unit of Integrated Monitoring of Climate Change, to support the generation of information, management of information and periodic monitoring of climate indicators. The objective is for the Information System of INGEI to elaborate them on a periodical basis within the National Communications under this Unit of Monitoring. They also seek for this Unit to be included as the main component of the strengthening of capacities.”

The project will enhance Honduras’ capacity to implement the Paris Agreement. Having an operational and functional monitoring system will act as repository of knowledge and information. This is linked to the GEF-6 climate change mitigation focal area Indicator 3 on MRV systems for emissions reductions in place and reporting verified data. Honduras will have a solid cornerstone that will complement the country’s current climate agenda in terms of knowledge management, enabling reliance on and access to updated, official and available information in order to respond to the current demands of the UNFCCC, as well as other conservation and sustainable development initiatives that are a national priority. The innovative platform will also respond to the demands of the population generally, particularly when taking decisions related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, through the delivery of regular information based on an analysis of climate indicators and their impact on livelihoods.

The ONCC-DS will significantly contribute to reducing the loss of important information that frequently occurs following changes in Government and/or the end of cooperation programmes and projects. It will also enable lessons learned and good practices to be systematized and disseminated, thus avoiding the duplication of efforts and loss of financial resources. In addition, it will support a group of Honduran professionals specializing in compliance and climate change science.

The project will monitor an additional indicator for qualitative assessment of institutional capacity for transparency-related activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The baseline and target will be set during the project development phase following the scale of 1-4 as per the guidance on Annex IV of the GEF programming directions for the CBIT.

6) *innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.*

This project is based on a sound baseline analysis. It builds on the existing regulatory and policy framework, institutional arrangements, technical capacities, monitoring tools and social processes,

addressing the barriers that prevent the country from complying with Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, taking into account ongoing and planned complementary projects.

Innovation

Upon completing the proposed action, the Monitoring System of Climate Change of Honduras will have the technical and methodological techniques to be the central source of information at the national level regarding climate change and climate action. The system will also be one of the main support instruments of the inter-institutional technical committee of climatic change of Honduras (CTICC). The CTICC is composed of various sectors (Secretariats: Environment/DNCC, Governance and Justice, Education, Health, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Public Works, Transport and Housing, Agriculture and Livestock, Planning and External Cooperation, Forest Conservation and Development Institute, Protected Areas and Wildlife, Honduran Institute of Tourism, National Electric Energy Company, National Water Supply and Sewerage Service and the National Council for Sustainable Development). The integrated climate change monitoring system will facilitate the integration of information from each of these actors and will be able to constitute the official source of information of the CTICC improving the level of management towards a real integral information management and cross-cutting between all sectors, with a better interpretation and prospective analysis.

Sustainability

The sustainability of the project will be obtained by:

- Implementing the monitoring system for the commitments of Honduras to the UNFCCC. Given that to date there is no national platform for the systemic registration of relevant data for reporting to UNFCCC, it is expected that this system will systematically monitor compliance with the NDC and, above all, it will facilitate a retrospective analysis of compliance with this, among other Multilateral Environmental Agreements.
- Establish strategic alliances and the operation of the network of collaborators at the scientific, technical and community levels to provide and validate the framework of prioritized indicators.
- Generate and deliver specialized reports demand-driven by the productive sectors of the country. A comprehensive approach to climate action through the delivery of reliable and validated information from each of the sectors, while guaranteeing the democratization of information in Honduras, will be obtained through CBIT.

Potential for scaling up

The project has considerable potential for scaling up, given its national and cross-cutting scope, covering all relevant areas and actions related to mitigation and adaptation. A detailed monitoring approach of the project will be applied at different scales, and within different sectors. In addition, the project will learn and share its experience from CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

2. [Stakeholders](#). Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from [civil society organizations](#) (yes /no) and [indigenous peoples](#) (yes /no)? If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project preparation.

The key stakeholders and brief description of their engagement in the project design and preparation is provided in the Table below.

National Stakeholders	Function in the execution of technical assistance
Secretariat of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mines (MiAmbiente) and its directorates	As focal point of UNFCCC and responsible for the environmental policy of the country, will facilitate the integration of actors, initiatives set forth, official information. Direct accompaniment with the support of technical personnel throughout the whole process. Inclusion in the process of strengthening of technical capacities, support and validation of the analysis of the matrix of indicators.
Regional Center of Documentation and Environmental Interpretation (CREDIA)	The proposed ONCC-DS will be part of the initiatives of CREDIA. Therefore, CREDIA will directly benefit from the knowledge of the technical personnel assigned to the ONCC-DS as a means for achieving the objectives that CREDIA and the ONCC-DS have in common.
National Observatory of Climate Change for Sustainable Development (ONCC-DS)	Civil Society technical groups will play an active role in the monitoring system as they will lead the ONCC-DS, acting as Quality Control reviewers of the creation and implementation of the indicators.
National Autonomous University of Honduras – Regional University Center of the Atlantic Coast (UNAH-CURLA) through the National Observatory of sustainable tourism and climate change.	Technical consultancy and feedback during the construction process of the system of indicators. Participation in the training processes and the strengthening of technical capacities.
National Institute of Conservation and Forestry Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife (ICF)	Feedback of the process of construction of indicators and participation in the training processes and strengthening of technical capacities. An easy link to the platforms of monitoring and information management related to the forests MRV.
National Centre of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Seismic studies(CENAOS)/ Permanent Commission for Contingencies (COPECO)	Technical Consultancy and feedback during the process of construction in the system of indicators related to climate information.
Secretariat of Agriculture and Cattle Raising (SAG)	Technical consultancy and feedback during the process of construction of the system of indicators related to the agro-food information. The SAG contemplates to develop an Agro-climate Observatory; thus, it shall be articulated with ONCC-DS as a theme node.
Secretariat of Finances (SEFIN)	Interaction on the definition and consensus of indicators linked to climate finances and the assistance on the identification of mechanisms of financial sustainability of

National Stakeholders	Function in the execution of technical assistance
	the integrated monitoring system of Climate Change of Honduras.
Indigenous Peoples	<p>Within the CTICC, indigenous peoples directly participate in the management of climate change public policies in thematic sub-committees (REDD+, Agro-food and Adaptation) and the Safeguards Committee.</p> <p>In that way, indigenous peoples participation in the management information platform is ensured, and will participate in all the managements phases from the design to the implementation.</p> <p>REDD+ is associated with local forest rangers and the National Forest Monitoring System. The indigenous peoples play an active role in the adjudication and legalization of indigenous reserves' land that is part of the REDD+ scope of work so it is important they are involved in this project too. The integrated monitoring system will make that the adjudication process become more transparent and fair for the parties involved.</p>

3. *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.* Are issues on [gender equality](#) and women's empowerment taken into account? (yes /no). If yes, briefly describe how it will be mainstreamed into project preparation (e.g. gender analysis), taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men.

As stated in the 2nd plan for gender equality and equity of Honduras 2010-2022, the State of Honduras promotes the active participation of diverse women in the adoption of decisions regarding the environment at all levels, integrating the gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs concerning the environment and sustainable development.

Following CBIT Programming Directions and the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming and its Gender Equality Action Plan, based on this substantive initial mainstreaming effort, a gender responsive results-based framework will be developed during the PPG design phase. In specific, this project will organize a gender workshop on a topic that will be agreed upon during the PPG stage. The topic of the workshop could be training on how the government has supported building women's and men's resilience, or how women and men have been engaged to adopt climate-smart agriculture practices, etc. Institutions to be consulted on gender engagement will include, but not be limited to: the National Women Institute (INAM), the gender focal point for the convention on climate change, civil society organizations as well as research institutions and development partners working in the fields of gender and climate change.

4 **Risks.** Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (table format acceptable).

It is considered that one of the main risks of this action is the constant shift of technical personnel of the government, which can affect the project progress. The guarantee of institutional support of the initiative, regardless of the political government in place is crucial for this project. Not attaining and institutionalizing the mechanism of technical and financial sustainability of the Monitoring System of Climate Change.

Detailed description of how to address the risk will be developed during the project design. Nonetheless a couple of ideas on the way the risk factors will be remedied are provided in the table below: Table below outlines Project risks and proposed mitigation strategies and actions

Project Risk	Rating	Mitigation
Limited skill-set	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and harness existing capacities and skill sets in order to increase participation all national experts, - Where consultants are to be recruited they will be paired with local expert to facilitate knowledge transfers, - As much as possible experts, include experts from national academic/research institutions, CSO and businesses.
Lack of institutionalizing the mechanism of technical and financial sustainability of the Monitoring System of Climate Change.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and involve potential donors from the onset of the project - Establish channels for regular briefing for technical experts and political bodies - Ensure clear linkages of the Monitoring Unit to successful implementation of Honduras' NDC - Fully integrate CBIT project steering committee into existing climate change implementation committee
Insufficient institutional coordination.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fully integrate CBIT project steering committee into existing climate change implementation committee - Expand the sector working to include sector stakeholders in the CBIT proposal - Establish channel for regular briefing - Ensure clear linkages of implementation NDC action in line ministries.
Lack of political support for the development of each output of this project.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This risk is low given the alignment of the project with 'The Climate Agenda of Honduras' April, 2017. Political support will be promoted through the creation of a strategic Project Steering Committee and a robust project management that demonstrates the progress made and its relevance. Honduras held national elections in December 2017. The development of the monitoring system project is not impacted by presidential elections since it is part of the Climate Change Law (Decree 297-2013) already approved by the Congress. According to the Honduran Constitution, Laws cannot be modified or suppressed by the elected President.
Insufficient funds for the sustained operations of the UGMCC and the ONCC-DS over time.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 1.1.3 will identify and propose possible sources of self-funding for the ONCC-DS in order for it to work independently to guarantee transparency and objectivity. In addition, the Output encompasses the implementation of a national financial mechanism, between the Ministry of the

		Environment and the Secretariat of Finance to support the operations of the UGMCC.
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5. *Coordination.* Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives.

At the national level, the integrated climate change monitoring system will serve as a mechanism for integration, greater coordination and a better management of the CTICC (body supporting the implementation of the National Climate Change Strategy and its action plan). The enhancement of such coordination goes to the extent that each sector of the CTICC will integrate/migrate its information towards a common platform (Comprehensive Climate Change Monitoring System).

Likewise, and as established in the Climate Agenda of Honduras, the support pillar of MiAmbiente in the management of environmental monitoring and evaluation of climate change will be supported by the integrated monitoring system. This means the implementation of the Climate Agenda will be linked and evaluated from the information platforms of the system proposed through CBIT.

In addition, in Honduras there are several initiatives of information such as the creation of different observatories, for instance, the observatory of sustainable tourism and climate change of CURLA, the Agro-food observatory of SAG and COPECO, and the latest Center of Climate Information for the Western part of the Country, GEMA Project, with which the project will establish lines of coordination.

This project also plans to generate a coordination with the Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH) by means of the Honduran Institute of Sciences of Earth (IHCIT), and other cooperating agencies regarding the issue of management of knowledge especially in the topic of climate change. The following are additional projects/initiatives that this proposal aligns itself to:

- Technology Needs Assessment (TNA): In progress. Stage 1 completed.
- National Adaptation Plan (NAP): In progress.
- National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases (INGEI) - Biennial Update Report (BUR): In progress.
- Third National Communication: In progress http://www.ocphn.org/tercera_comunicacion.html
- INDC - targets for GHG emissions reductions and adaptation: http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Honduras/1/Honduras%20INDC_esp.pdf
- Adaptation Fund Project (water geoportal, historic data recovery): <http://hidro.sinia.gob.hn/>
- Climate Financing: In progress <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3lkd68YJK4hNjhadTRIZHowNzQ/view?pref=2&pli=1>
- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs): In progress.
- REDD+ process (with the REDD+ project financed by the FCPF and the REDD+ project financed by UN-REDD): In progress: <http://www.ocphn.org/reddhonduras.html>
- Implementing regulations for the Climate Change Law. In progress.
- Technical assistance with the pilot programme for climate resilience in order to prepare the country for the Climate Resilience Strategic Programme: In progress. <http://www.miambiente.gob.hn/?q=ppcrandfip>

6.- *Consistency with National Priorities. Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes /no). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.*

As mentioned above, Honduras has ratified the Paris Agreement, thereby turning its intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) into its nationally determined contribution (NDC). This project will allow Honduras to meet the enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

The monitoring system of climate change of Honduras keeps a direct relation and in response to the needs of monitoring, follow-up and assessment of the climate agenda of the country, and it has been denominated an organic document created to give an order to the actions in the fight against climate change. The present project is strictly in line with the program structure of the climate agenda of Honduras (MiAmbiente 2017), where there is an articulation plan settled among the instruments of environmental strategic planning of the country, putting the monitoring system of climate change as the supporting mechanism to the monitoring, assessment and follow-up system of the climate agenda of the country.

This project takes into consideration gaps identified in the Second National Communication. In addition, as stated in the coordination section, the Third National Communication and the first BUR are currently being developed, implemented by United Nations Development Programme, and are expected to be completed during the first semester of 2018. The BUR is focused on developing GHG 2011 inventory for specific sectors in Honduras and will assess information over gaps and needs regarding financial, technical and capacity needs issues related to the Action Plan for the National Strategy of Climate Change. The current CBIT initiative has a holistic strategic approach towards an enhanced MRV system for Honduras's NDC thus, avoiding any overlap between the BUR activities and this CBIT proposal. While the BUR project target to create:

- Financial strategy for identifying costs and opportunities of implementing the 2015-17 Action Plan for the National Strategy of Climate Change
- General capacity building for the ONCC-DS to consolidate a Knowledge Management Plan focusing on awareness workshops, engagement of stakeholders, gender inclusion, revision of scientific documents, principally for the AFOLU sector

The CBIT project will create:

- Financial mechanism designed and implemented for funding the new structured Integrated Monitoring System
- Capacity building program for the whole Integrated Monitoring System with focus on NDC compliance information, assessing patterned modifications in climate change, technology needs, creation of a customized platform and south-south cooperation

7. *Knowledge Management.* Outline the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly way, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

The knowledge management in the framework of this action is expected to be shown through the platforms of knowledge management established both at the level of DNCC and CREDIA. In the case of CREDIA the knowledge management is based on three platforms: the online center of documentation (CENDOC), the National Table of Biological Monitoring and the ONCC-DS. These three platforms will be the vehicles to exhibit the actions of diffusion and information exchange. In addition, the DNCC has a platform of

knowledge management, which will be available for the monitoring system for the diffusion of information.

Honduras will also contribute to the CBIT Global Coordination Platform. The project proposal will therefore define how national CBIT information will be shared and updated on the global coordination platform. Sharing lessons learnt and experiences under the platform will ensure alignment of Honduras' CBIT project with other national, regional and global transparency initiatives.

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

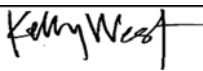
A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT¹² OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):

(Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter](#)(s) with this template. For SGP, use this [SGP OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Rosibel Martinez Arriaga	Director of External Cooperation and Resource Mobilization	SECRETARIAT OF ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND MINES	07/20/2017

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies¹³ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
Kelly West, Senior Programme Manager & Global Environment Facility Coordinator Corporate Services Division UN Environment		May 30, 2018	Geordie Colville	+254713601293	geordie.colville@un.org

C. ADDITIONAL GEF PROJECT AGENCY CERTIFICATION (APPLICABLE ONLY TO NEWLY ACCREDITED GEF PROJECT AGENCIES)

For newly accredited GEF Project Agencies, please download and fill up the required [GEF Project Agency Certification of Ceiling Information Template](#) to be attached as an annex to the PIF.

¹² For regional and/or global projects in which participating countries are identified, OFP endorsement letters from these countries are required even though there may not be a STAR allocation associated with the project.

¹³ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT