

APPENDIX V: CI-GCF/GEF'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD (ESS) SCREENING FORM

- Preliminary Screening** (check if performed at GCF Concept Note (CN) Stage or GEF Project Identification Form (PIF) Stage) **Secondary Screening** (check if performed at GCF Project Preparation Facility (PPF) Stage or GEF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Stage)

1. The CI-GEF Project Agency undertakes environmental and social safeguard screening for every project at the beginning of the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase to determine the risk categorization for the project, the safeguard policies triggered by the project, and the mitigation measures to be put in place by the project.
2. The CI-GEF Project Agency classifies the project into one of three categories, depending on the type, location, sensitivity and scale of the project and the nature and magnitude of its potential environmental and social impacts. The descriptions of the categories and lists of types of projects identified in Appendix I of the CI-GEF ESS Policy and these which are meant to serve as guidance and are not meant to be exhaustive.
3. CI-GEF does not fund projects that involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams, and resettlement of people. CI cannot support projects that contradict its mission and policies.
4. The Executing Agency (EA) is responsible for providing accurate responses to each question in this screening form and to submit the completed form to CI-GEF Project Agency in a timely manner.
5. The CI-GEF Project Agency is responsible ensuring that the project complies with the CI-GEF ESS, Gender and Stakeholder Engagement policies and will use the completed screening form to determine the mitigation measures for the EA to implement.
6. In addition to preparing and implementing mitigation plans for the ESS policies triggered, the EA will also need to prepare a Gender Mainstreaming Plan and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan.
7. The EA is responsible for informing the CI-GEF Project Agency in a timely manner, if at any time during the preparation and implementation of the project, the information provided in this Screening Form changes which results in the risks of the project being increased.

I. PROJECT INFORMATION	
GEF Project ID: 10093	Country: Regional (the Comoros, Eritrea, Seychelles, Zambia ¹)
Project Title: Regional capacity building of COMESA member states in Eastern and Southern Africa for enhanced transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification as defined in the Paris Agreement.	
Name of the Executing Entity: The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) - Climate Change Unit.	
Partners:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vital Signs Monitoring Programme. 	

¹ Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Madagascar are COMESA member states but have not been included in this list because they have submitted or are in the process of submitting national proposals, however they will be invited to benefit from the work of this project.

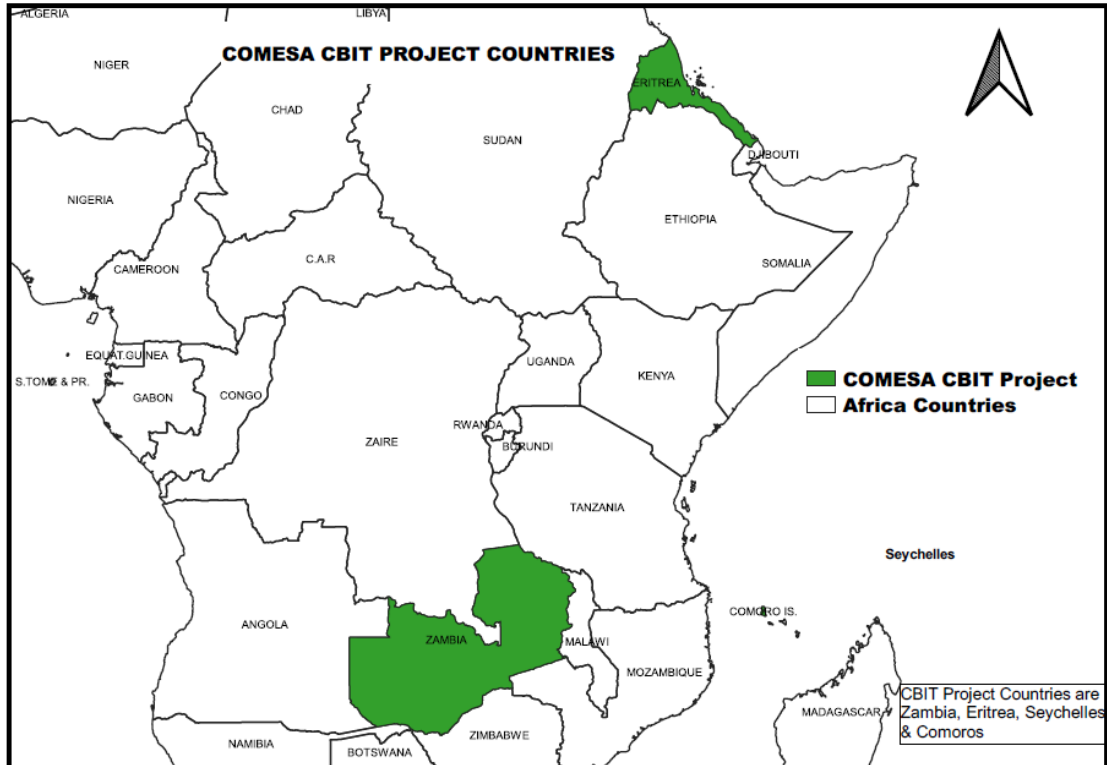
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regional Centre for Mapping Resources for Development (RCMRD). 		
Length of Project: 60 months	Proposed Start date: July 2021	Anticipated End date: June 2026
GEF Focal Area(s): Climate Change		
GEF Project Amount: USD 4,200,000		Co-Financing Amount: USD 1,400,000
<p>Project Objectives: To strengthen capacity of COMESA member States to comply with Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement through establishment of an Eastern and Southern Africa Regional CBIT transparency framework for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate actions, report on NDCs and knowledge dissemination.</p>		
<p>Project Components and main Activities Proposed:</p> <p>Component 1: Strengthen regional transparency frameworks for Monitoring and Tracking NDCs and climate actions.</p> <p>Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity-building for tracking implementation progress of each country's NDC. - Establishment of national and regional climate change co-ordination frameworks to guide GHG data sharing, tracking, and reporting of climate actions. - Establishment of regional partnerships for cost effective use of capacity building resources. - Build regional information management systems for GHG Monitoring, Reporting and Verification. <p>Component 2: Strengthen capacity of stakeholders from participating countries to measure, report and verify emissions in AFOLU sector.</p> <p>Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity building (institutional and individual) at national levels for MRVs of GHGs emissions and sinks in the AFOLU sector - Establishment of a framework for partnership between regional and national academic institutions for capacity building in Terrestrial Carbon Accounting (TCA) and Agricultural Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (AMRV) at national level. - Identification and mapping of capacity gaps in MRV in the AFOLU sector <p>Component 3: Establishment of a regional CBIT integrated platform for learning and knowledge management of transparency related activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of a regional web-based integrated platform for learning and knowledge management of transparency related activities in Eastern and Southern Africa. - Formulation of Regional Transparency Strategy and Action Plans - Collection and dissemination of transparency information at national and regional level. - Build technical capacities of stakeholders for knowledge management to enhance transparency; and - Strengthen linkages and partnerships amongst key stakeholders to promote effective implementation of transparency related activities at country and regional level. <p>Component 4: Monitoring and Evaluation. A project M&E Framework will be put-in place, implemented and monitored in-order to improve project management and ensure realization of the project's target results. Key activities include periodic M&E reports and Evaluation Reports (Mid-Term Evaluation and Terminal Evaluation Reports).</p>		
Safeguard Screening Form Prepared by: Victor Esendi		
Date of Submission/Resubmission to CI-GEF: 31 st May 2020		
Comments: Refer to the CIGEF Safeguards analysis and results report (attached separately: Appendix XI)		

II. PROJECT CONTEXT

Project Location

This is a regional Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) project focusing on four COMESA member states namely, Eritrea, the Comoros, Seychelles, and Zambia. Notably, COMESA is the Executing Agency. Figure 1 provides the location of the 5 countries. A synopsis of each country location is provided below the map.

Figure 1: Map (location of Eritrea, the Comoros, Seychelles and Zambia)



The Comoros (11.6455° S, 43.3333° E) are a group of four volcanic islands situated in the Mozambique Channel in the Western Indian Ocean, halfway between the east coast of the African continent and the northern extremity of Madagascar. The biggest island is the Grande Comore (Ngazidja) together with the other Islands, covers a total area of 2,612 km².

Eritrea (12°40"-18°02" N and 36°30"- 43°23" E) is situated in the north-eastern part of Africa bordered by Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and the Red Sea. It covers an area of 125,700 km².

The Republic of **Seychelles** (4.6796° S, 55.4920° E) lies in the western part of the Indian Ocean, north of Madagascar and covers an area of 459 km². It is composed of 115 islands, the largest and most economically important of which is Mahé and the islands are spread over an Exclusive Economic Zone of about 1.3 million km².

Zambia (13.1339° S, 27.8493° E), covering an area of 752,618 km², is a landlocked country in Southern Africa bordered by Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, The United Republic of Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia.

Biological Context of Project Area

The biological contexts of the four project countries in terms of species endemism and threatened species, environmental conditions and climate change impacts are summarized below:

The Comoros: the country is home to a large number of endemic species and is considered one of the five 'hottest' biodiversity spots in the world due to the large number of species that are found here and nowhere else on the planet. Approximately 2,000 species of plants are listed in the Comoros and there is a significant link between the flora of the Comoros and that in Madagascar and East Africa. Amongst endemic species found in the Comoros are *Weinmannia comorensis*, *Ocotea comorensis* and *Saba comorensis*. 101 species of birds, 56 of them endemics, are found in the Comoros. Each island has its own endemic species –19 in Anjouan, 27 in Grande Comore and 22 in Mohéli –several of which are considered endangered. The Scops Owl is a striking example, with a different species in every island – the Karthala Scops Owl (*Otus pauliani*), endemic to Grande Comore, the Mohéli Scops Owl (*Otus moheliensis*) and the Anjouan Scops Owl (*Otus capnodes*). These owls are currently classified as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. The Comoros Islands are also home to a rich and dense variety of reptiles, such as geckos, chameleons, snakes and skinks. There are 24 species of reptile, 10 of which are endemics. Two of the best known are the St Johann's Tree Snake (*Lycodryassancti johannis*), which is classified as 'Near Threatened' and the Comoro Ground Gecko (*Paroedurasancti johannis*), considered to be 'Threatened', according to the IUCN².

The country experiences a tropical climate and episodes of cyclones with the rainy season from November to April. The geographical location of Madagascar often protects the Comoros from the direct path of cyclones, reducing the violent impacts³.

SIDs are vulnerable to climate change impacts resulting from global warming, rising sea levels and erratic rainfall. The impact of climate change and variability on SIDS is higher than in other areas because islands are more exposed to natural disasters due to their geographic location hence increased susceptibility to disasters especially cyclones. Vulnerability of SIDS is also increased due to low adaptive capacity. For instance, the Comoros island has low adaptive capacity due to geographical isolation; limited natural resources availability and accessibility; escalated deforestation and degradation. Additionally, the country is highly sensitive to impacts of climate change and variability due to economic dependence on climate sensitive sectors such as agriculture and tourism.

² Dahari 2019. The Biodiversity of the Comoros. <https://daharicomores.org/en/portfolio-view/la-biodiversite-des-comores/> accessed 24th October 20:34

³ General Directorate of Environment 2002. Initial National Communication on Climate Change to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Ministry of Development, Infrastructures, Posts, Telecommunications and International Transports, The Comoros.

Eritrea: Eritrea has records of about 600 bird species, and it is an important migration route and stop-over location for many species of migratory birds. A total of 14 Important Bird Areas (IBA) have been identified for Eritrea. Also recorded are about 700 species of plants, 90 reptiles, and 19 amphibian species. There are 12 species of global conservation concern. There are two possible endemic reptiles namely Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) and Olive Ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) and one possible endemic amphibian Demarchi's Frog (*Rana demarchii*). The country possesses one of the least ecologically disturbed parts of the Red Sea relative to other enclosed water bodies⁴. The main threats to biodiversity conservation include land degradation, deforestation, soil loss and the expansion of desertification, especially in the critical agricultural areas. Seventy percent of the country experiences hot to very hot conditions with mean annual temperature of more than 27°C; The annual rainfall varies from less than 200 mm to 700 mm and increases from north to the south. The country has increasingly experienced climatic variability in the last thirty years. This has led to reduced food and nutrition security⁵.

Seychelles: The country has recorded 997 species of plants (consisting of 218 species of mosses and liverworts, 72 species of ferns and allies and 707 vascular plants), and 2,738 species of animals of which 2,545 are insects, 65 species are birds, 22 species are reptiles, 15 species of fish, 11 species of amphibians and 6 species of mammals⁶. The country exhibits a high rate of endemism, with insects having the highest number (1,368 species). Other endemic species include birds (65 species), Mollusca (50 species), amphibians (15) and mammals (4). The main threats to terrestrial biodiversity are Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and loss of habitat/change in land use. Climate change is a cross-cutting threat and complicating factor in assessing priority threats to terrestrial biodiversity. In marine ecosystems the primary threat is that of overfishing. There is strong evidence showing significant and progressive overfishing of the demersal fishery and “fishing down” of the food chain which can destabilize ecosystems.

The country's climate is influenced by south-east trade winds that blow from May to October. The north-west monsoon winds bring heavy rain. January is the wettest month, July and August the driest. The climate change impacts affects human settlements in the coastal areas, fisheries resources, human health, water resources; and the impacts are also a trigger of natural disasters. The impacts are mainly through the high risks of flooding from heavy rains, storm surges, landslides and sea level rise⁷.

Zambia: A total of 8017 species of organisms has been recorded, of which plants constitute 47%, fauna 45% and microorganisms constitute 8 percent. In addition, a total of 316 species are endemic, 174 rare and 31 are endangered/vulnerable species of plants and animals. The main threats to biodiversity include deforestation and habitat destruction, land use conflicts, climate change and variability, introduced species such as lantana (*Lantana camara*), Kariba weed (*Salvinia molesta*) and water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*). The country is covered mostly by Miombo woodlands and grasslands. About 3500 plant species are found in the dry evergreen, dry deciduous, montane, swamp and riparian forests⁸.

The country experiences tropical climate with abundant water resources from rivers, lakes and wetlands. The wettest areas are the North-Western Province, the Copper-belt, and the Northern Province, where annual

⁴ Ministry of Land, Water and Environment 2015. Revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Eritrea, (2014-2020). Government of Eritrea, Asmara

⁵ Ministry of Land, Water and Environment 2018. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) Report to UNFCCC. The State of Eritrea, Asmara.

⁶ Government of Seychelles 2014. Seychelles' National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015 – 2020. Editors: John Nevill, Jacques Prescott, Nirmal Jivan Shah and Marie-May Jeremie. Seychelles, Victoria.

⁷ Republic of Seychelles 2015. Intended Nationally Determined contributions (INDC) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Victoria.

⁸ Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection 2015. Zambia's Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP -2), Government of Zambia, Lusaka.

precipitation exceeds 1,000 millimeters. The most arid areas are in the south-west and the southern part of Barotseland. Biodiversity in freshwater bodies face threats such as pollution, poor fishing methods and overfishing. Climate change has increased frequency and severity of seasonal droughts, increased temperatures in valleys and flush flood and changes in growing seasons⁹.

Socio-economic Context of Project Area

The project countries represent a broad diversity in terms of the environments, culture, size, economies, and geography. They are low income countries and economies structured around tourism, agriculture, services, and industry. An overview of the socio-economic context of each project country is presented below:

The Comoros: With an estimated population of 856,769 people¹⁰ and GDP of USD 1.2 billion in 2018¹¹, the country is one of the poorest in the world. It has a high population density of about 400 persons per km², and more than half of the population (53%) is under the age of 20. About 18% of the population lives below the international poverty line (USD 1.9 per capita per day). The per capita gross domestic product (GDP) is USD 676. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting are the main economic activities that contribute 40% of the GDP and employs 80% of the labour force. The country is not self-sufficient in food production, and rice, which is the staple food, constitutes the bulk of imports. Politically, Comoros has experienced protracted political instability since gaining independence in 1975. Although conflict in the Comoros has generally been low intensity, the country has experienced recurring political instability, including 21 successful and attempted military coups, and various secession attempts by some of the islands¹². This has made it difficult for formal institutions to take root and establish their legitimacy. Local communities cope with the absence of the State by relying on traditional governance structures. As a result, Comoros is at times referred to as a “confederation of villages” rather than a nation state. Consequently, Comoros has been unable to establish an environment of trust that would encourage private investment. In addition, the general investment climate in terms of supporting infrastructure and

⁹ Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection 2015. Zambia’s Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the 2015 Agreement on Climate Change. Government of Zambia, Lusaka.

¹⁰ Based on the Worldometers elaboration of the latest United Nations data. <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/comoros-population/> Website accessed on 25th October, 2019 at 1625hrs.

¹¹ Comoros GDP, 2018. <https://countryeconomy.com/gdp/moroni>. Website accessed on 28th October, 2019 at 1430 hours.

¹² World Bank, 2019. Towards a more United & Prosperous Union of Comoros: Systematic Country Diagnostic. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/354101559590231457/pdf/Comoros-Towards-a-More-United-and-Prosperous-Union-of-Comoros-Systematic-Country-Diagnostic.pdf>. Website accessed on 31st October, 2019 at 1230 hours.

regulations is weak; the rule of law is often not respected putting in question the enforceability of contracts¹³.

Eritrea: With an estimated population of 5,753,934 people¹⁴ and GDP USD 6.5 billion in 2018¹⁵ has an economy based on agriculture, forestry and industry. Agriculture is the main source of livelihoods and occupation for more than 80% of the labour force. Agriculture is rain-fed and less than 10% of the arable land is under irrigation¹⁶. Farming is characterized by low input and low output in the nomadic, semi-nomadic and sedentary systems. Poverty level is high (50%) and exacerbated by the impact of emigration and refugees. There are some existing and potential conflicts over land such as the competition over land and the settlements of diverse ethnic groups in the Gash-setit which often cause tension¹⁷. In addition to these, there have been an on-going conflict with Ethiopia; a liberation war that lasted for three decades (1961-1991) that destroyed Eritrea's major infrastructure. This conflict had tremendous effects on the environment at large and the economy in particular¹⁸. The country is now in the reconstruction phase.

Seychelles: Comprises about 115 islands, has an estimated population of 97,933 people¹⁹ (least population in Africa) and a GDP of USD 1.6 billion in 2018²⁰. The economy is based on fishing, tourism, processing of vanilla and coconut, boat building, rope, printing, furniture, and beverages. Seychelles has one of the highest incomes per capita in Africa – USD 16, 434²¹. There is an increasing awareness of the importance of gender in natural resources management especially for communities dependent upon natural resources such as forests for their livelihoods in which gender roles and relations can affect access to resources, income and food generating activities²². There is no-ongoing conflict in Seychelles; neither any significant displacement except from environmental hazards such as floods.

Zambia: With an estimated population of 18,024,840 people²³, and GDP of USD 30.8 in 2018²⁴, the country is

¹³ World Bank, 2019. Towards a more United & Prosperous Union of Comoros: Systematic Country Diagnostic. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/354101559590231457/pdf/Comoros-Towards-a-More-United-and-Prosperous-Union-of-Comoros-Systematic-Country-Diagnostic.pdf>. Website accessed on 31st October, 2019 at 1230 hours.

¹⁴ <https://www.populationpyramid.net/eritrea/2019/>. Website accessed on 25th October 2019 at 1656hrs.

¹⁵ Eritrea GDP, 2018. <https://countryeconomy.com/gdp/eritrea>. Website accessed on 28th October 2019 at 1432 hours.

¹⁶ Ministry of Land, Water and Environment 2018. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) Report to UNFCCC. The State of Eritrea, Asmara.

¹⁷ Naty, A. 2015. Potential conflicts in the former Gash-Setit region in Western Eritrea; Threat to peace and security. A PhD Thesis. https://www.harep.org/ifaapr/Kunama_conflicts_Alexandria_pdf. Website accessed on 31st October 2019 at 1334 hours.

¹⁸ Eritrea NDC.

¹⁹ Based on the Worldometers elaboration of the latest United Nations data. <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/seychelles-population/>. Website accessed on 25th October, 2019 at 1702hrs.

²⁰ Seychelles GDP, 2018. <https://countryeconomy.com/gdp/seychelles>. Website accessed on 28th October 2019 at 1637 hours.

²¹ Seychelles GDP, 2018. <https://countryeconomy.com/gdp/seychelles>. Website accessed on 28th October 2019 at 1644 hours.

²² Gender affects access to and use of resources. <https://environmentalevidencejournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10>. Website accessed on 31st October 2019 at 1244 hours.

²³ Based on the Worldometers elaboration of the latest United Nations data. <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/zambia-population/> Website accessed on 25th October 2019 at 1705hrs.

²⁴ Zambia GDP, 2018. <https://countryeconomy.com/gdp/zambia>. Website accessed on 28th October 2019 at 1640 hours.

endowed with a wealth of natural resource. It is the second largest producer of copper in Africa and about 50 million hectares of forests. The country has rich wildlife resources in a protected area system that covers 36% of the total land area. The GDP is based on natural resources, including minerals, tourism, agriculture and forestry. Available information doesn't indicate any on-going conflict in Zambia that could result in risks to project implementation, although there is mention of land conflicts especially in highly populated areas around Lusaka, where land governance system has been associated with issues such as illegal allocation of land, invasion of idle or undeveloped private or public land, double allocations, insufficient supply of affordable state land, insufficient monitoring of land use, and ineffective cadastral surveying²⁵.

Climate Change and Natural Disaster Risks and Hazards

The four project countries, by virtue of their geographical locations are exposed to different environmental risks and hazards, and related climate change impacts. The details of the risks and hazards specific to each country are elaborated below as well as how the CBIT project will increase their resilience to impacts of climate change and variability. In the context of this project, resilience is the ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events of climate change. It includes the ability to withstand and re-cover rapidly from deliberate attacks, accidents, natural disasters, as well as unconventional stresses, shocks, and threats arising from climate change.²⁶

The **Comoros** is experiencing a current average temperature of 27.62°C. Between 1787 and 2015, the lowest temperature was 22.51°C and the highest was 28.65°C and the average was 25.71°C²⁷. Changes in climate anticipated in Comoros by year 2050 are estimated to be a raise in mean annual temperature to an average of 28°C and sea level increase of 4 mm/year for a total increase of 20 cm by 2050. Expected impacts include intrusion of salty water in the coastal aquifers; an increase in the occurrence of malaria, food poisoning resulting from consumption of sea foods; a decrease in crop and fisheries yields; flooding of coastal areas resulting in displacement of 10% of the country's coastal inhabitants; and destruction of coastal infrastructure. The impact is estimated to cause a loss of USD 400 million²⁸. A projected global increase of 1.5°C to 2.0°C expected to lead to increased wind speeds and flooding resulting from frequent cyclones, which are likely to affect agriculture, forestry and fisheries activities on which the country depends. Consequently, the country is likely to reduce agricultural production and productivity, aggravate the food and nutrition insecurity, poor human health, reduced household incomes and decline in livelihoods. It is also likely to increase the burden on foreign exchange used for importation of rice. However, this CBIT project will contribute to addressing these risks, hazards and thus reduce the impacts. In view of the above, strengthening climate change resilience in the Comoros will require a profound change in the current practices of development planning and implementation. This will entail greater awareness of decision makers about climate change risks and a better understanding of medium- to long-term climate change impacts among others. In order to strengthen the country's climate change resilience, it is imperative for the government

²⁵ Mushinge, Anthony, Munshifwa, Ephraim, Shamaoma, Hastings 2018. An Analysis Of Causes of Conflicts on State Land In Zambia: Evidence From The City Of Lusaka. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/329371474_An_analysis_of_causes_of_conflicts_on_state_land_in_zambia_evidence_from_the_city_of_lusaka, accessed 30th October 2019:10:30

²⁶ Center for climate and energy solutions, 2019. What is climate resilience and why does it matter? <https://www.c2es.org/site/assets/uploads/2019/04/what-is-climate-resilience.pdf>. Website accessed on 28th October 2019 at 1500 hours.

²⁷ Comoros average Temperature 2019. <https://tradingeconomics.com/comoros/temperature>. Website accessed on 28th October, 2019 at 1824 hours.

²⁸ Comoros-Climate, 2019. <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/indian-ocean/cr-climate.htm>. Website accessed on 28th October, 2019 at 1845 hours.

to align human settlements, community basic infrastructure and economic development plans to strategies for attaining climate change resilience.

Eritrea experiences highest temperatures of between 27°C to 40°C and the lowest, especially in the highlands, of close to freezing point, while the average temperature is between 20°C to 26°C²⁹. The country is projected to have a temperature increase of above 4 degrees Celsius by 2050 (above the average global value)³⁰; and the area is already experiencing extreme variability in rainfall and affecting the mainly rain-fed agriculture. The impact of extreme climate variability is likely to include decline in agricultural production and productivity, reduced food and nutrition security, low household income and increased movement of livestock and pastoralists in search of water and pasture. Both human and livestock health is likely to be adversely affected by increased incidences of pest and diseases. Building capacity for knowledge sharing and adoption of best practices using the established regional CBIT integrated platform is likely to enhance, rather than adversely impacts on the Project outcomes.

The **Seychelles** is economically, culturally and environmentally vulnerable to the potential effects of climate change and associated extreme events³¹. Vulnerability characteristics such as concentration of development on narrow coastal zones, non-resilient populations and ecosystems make the Seychelles extremely sensitive to climate change and its associated impacts³². The impact of climate change on coastal livelihoods because of sea level rise, storm and tidal surges, extreme sea-surface temperatures, and coastal flooding will have serious consequences for livelihoods in the Seychelles³³. The effects of climate change on tourism in small islands are expected to be largely negative³⁴. Furthermore, recent studies suggest that changes in long-term rainfall patterns and temperature changes will also have adverse consequences for water, food and health³⁵. However, climate models for Seychelles, over the period 2010-2100, indicate that the rainy season is 'more likely than not' to be wetter, while the dry season is 'more likely than not' to be dryer³⁶. Seychelles has a tropical climate characterized by warm and humid with strong maritime influences. The temperature is consistently 24-32°C. There is no distinct dry season and it is always humid. Seychelles is now enduring annual emergency costs of tropical cyclones that generate wind, flood, and storm surge hazards. On average, storm surge and inland flooding cause high social, economic and environmental losses. The country is unlikely to endure these risks and hazards in future, in the absence of capacity for enhanced transparency in climate change MRV. It is unlikely that these environmental risks and hazards related to climate change will affect the project.

Zambia's experiences sub-tropical climate with highest temperatures during the hot and dry season (August to November) ranging between 26°C and 38°C; and cool dry season (May to August) with temperatures ranging from 13°C and 26°C³⁷. Zambia's geographic characteristics coupled with high poverty levels (currently estimated at 60%)³⁸ and limited institutional capacity for adaptation, make it a highly vulnerable country to the adverse impacts of climate change especially droughts and floods. The country is likely to continue to experience increase in frequency and severity of seasonal droughts, high temperatures and flush floods. It is unlikely that these environmental risks and hazards related to climate change will affect the project.

Institutional Capacity

²⁹ Climate of Eritrea, 2019. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Eritrea. Website accessed on 29th October 2019 at 0859 hours.

³⁰ Eritrea Climate, 2019. <http://www.madote.com/2016/03/eritrea-coping-with-climate-change.html>. Website accessed on 25th October 2019 at 1805 hours.

³¹ The Seychelles National Climate Change Committee. Seychelles National Climate Change Strategy: https://www.preventionweb.net/files/20091100_seychelles_climate_change_strategy_2009.pdf

³² Ibid

³³ Ibid

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ Ibid

³⁶ Ibid

³⁷ Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources 2007. Formulation of the National Adaptation Programme of Action on Climate Change. Final Report. Government of Zambia. Lusaka.

³⁸ World Bank. 2015. Country Overview – Zambia. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/zambia/overview>

COMESA has a team that has substantial experience in climate change and project management. Additionally, the team has an M&E Expert who will monitor implementation of the project activities including safeguards. In the CI-GEF Risk Assessment documents, we (COMESA) have also confirmed that we have capacity to manage environmental and social safeguards and will adhere to the CI-GEF safeguard policies.

An overview of the personnel who will be involved in this project is provided below:

- (1) **Climate Change Advisor (Dr Mclay Kanyangarara):** will provide overall leadership, strategic direction and overall supervision for the project and its staff, backstop climate change negotiations to ensure successful implementation and achievement of results. He will be the direct liaison contact with the Member States and represent the Programme to Secretariat management and Policy Organs. He has extensive experience and exposure at government, corporate, regional and international levels that are essential to position the programme high on the priorities of COMESA structures and the Member States. He spearheaded the formation of the Climate Change Unit in COMESA and since 2009 has been leading it. He holds engineering degrees from Oxford and London Universities.
- (2) **Programme Manager (Edith B Tibahwa):** Under the supervision of the Climate Change Advisor, Edith will directly manage and support the performance of the project team, including short term technical assistance expert as well as sub partners and will have responsibility for the development and management of project work plans and budgets and reports. Further she will be responsible for liaising with partners and ensuring compliance with agreed reporting requirements. Ms Tibahwa has over 15 years of practical experience in project design, planning and implementation management; grants management (technical and financial); strategic planning; business development and monitoring & evaluation. Edith holds an MBA and a First-Class Post-Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management (PgD PPM) and has been the Programme Manager at COMESA (Climate Change Programme) since November 2012.
- (3) **Finance Specialist (Ms Fungwa Kabati):** Fungwa will oversee the financial management of the project ensuring timely reporting and management of the budget as well as overseeing the audit aspects of the project. She is a member of the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA) and is finalizing her Master's in Science (MSc) in international accounting and Finance with the University of Liverpool. She has 10 years' experience in development finance having obtained from COMESA: as a senior Auditor (2009-2015) and with ACTESA and RISM Programmes and currently with the Climate Change Unit. She has experience in project financial management and accounting systems, grants and contracts including sub-granting.
- (4) **Project Officer (Lwembe Mwale):** Mr. Mwale will play a pivotal role in executing the project. He is conversant with national policies, legislative and regulatory frameworks, and piloting innovative economic and financial tools. He has been involved in climate finance access interventions targeting the GCF, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Adaptation Fund and the African Development Bank's African Climate Change Fund (ACCF). He will support the policy-related work, and policy and plan reviews. He has successfully convened regional climate change trainings, workshops, and meetings. He has been with the Climate Change Unit for 6 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Zambia and is currently completing a Master of Philosophy with focus on Multilateral Environmental Agreements and national environmental law and policy regulation.
- (5) **Monitoring & Evaluation Expert (Ms Cissy Kirambaire):** For quick programme start-up, it is essential that the M&E system be developed and operationalised early as it will be used by all programme partners and beneficiaries. It is thus essential to have the M&E Expert right at the start of the Programme. She will develop and sustain effective M&E systems and practices for the project; produce M&E reports; collect, analyse and disseminate baseline and all data related to the project. She is currently working as an M&E Expert at COMESA specifically attached to the EU funded programmes. She has provided technical M&E support to the COMESA Climate Change Programme from time to time. She has over 15 years of experience in Monitoring and Evaluation and Strategic Planning for country-level and regional donor-funded Projects. She holds an Upper Second-Class Honours degree in Economics and French and master's degree in Development Economics and post-graduate training in Project Management, M&E, strategic

planning.

III. ESS SCREENING

This section will help the CI-GEF Project Agency to determine the category of the project and the ESS policies triggered by the project. Please provide accurate answers and details including supporting documents, where requested.

Will the project:	Yes	No
I. Propose to create significant destruction or degradation of <i>critical natural habitats</i> ³⁹ of any type or have significant negative socioeconomic and cultural impacts that cannot be cost-effectively avoided, minimized, mitigated and/or offset?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
II. Propose to create or facilitate significant degradation and/or conversion of <i>natural habitats</i> of any type including those that are legally protected, officially proposed for protection, identified by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, or recognized as protected by traditional local communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
III. Propose to carry out <i>unsustainable</i> harvesting of natural resources -animals, plants, timber and/or non-timber forest products (NTFPs)- or the establishment of forest plantations in <i>critical natural habitats</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IV. Propose the introduction of exotic species that can certainly become invasive and harmful to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
V. Contravene major international and regional conventions on environmental issues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VI. Involve <i>involuntary resettlement, land acquisition, and/or the taking of shelter and other assets</i> belonging to local communities or individuals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VII. Propose the use of pesticides that are unlawful under national or international laws?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VIII. Involve the removal, alteration or disturbance of any <i>physical cultural resources</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IX. Include the construction, rehabilitation and/or operation of large or complex dams?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
X. Involve trafficking of persons, procuring commercial sex acts, or the use of other forms of forced labor as described in CI's Anti-Trafficking policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XI. Produce the conditions for or include activities involving harmful or exploitative forms of forced labor/harmful child labor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

³⁹ Habitats considered essential for biodiversity conservation, provision of ecosystem services and the well-being of people at the local, national, regional or global levels. They include, among others, existing protected areas, areas officially proposed as protected areas, areas recognized as protected by traditional local communities, as well as areas identified as important for conservation, such as Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) Sites, Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs), Biodiversity Hotspot, Ramsar Sites, areas identified as important for ecosystem services such as carbon storage, freshwater provision and regulation, etc.

Minimum Standard 1: Environmental and Social Assessment, Management and Monitoring

Will the project potentially:

- (a) cause significant adverse environmental and social impacts (which may affect an area broader than the project area) that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented; or**
- (b) cause adverse environmental and social impacts (which are site-specific and few if any of them are irreversible) on human populations or environmentally or socially important areas?**

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

(c) Has a full or limited ESIA that covers the proposed project already been completed?

NO

YES (If Yes, answer the following)

	Yes	No
a) 1. Is the assessment a: <input type="checkbox"/> A FULL ESIA <input type="checkbox"/> A LIMITED ESIA		
b) 2. Does the assessment meet its terms of reference, both procedurally and substantively?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) 3. Does the assessment provide a satisfactory assessment of the proposed project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) 4. Does the assessment describe specific environmental and social management measures (e.g., avoidance, minimization, mitigation, compensation, monitoring, and capacity development measures)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) 5. Does the assessment identify capacity needs of the institutions responsible for implementing environmental and social management issues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) 6. Was the assessment developed through a consultative process with key stakeholder & rightsholder engagement, including issues related to gender mainstreaming and Indigenous Peoples?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) 7. Does the assessment assess the adequacy of the cost of and financing arrangements for environmental and social management issues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For any "no" answers, describe below how the issue has been or will be resolved or addressed.

Minimum Standard 2: Accountability, Grievance and Conflict Resolution

Does the EA have in place an accountability system that:

- (a) is able to receive complaints/grievances from stakeholders;**
- (b) is independent, transparent and effective;**
- (c) is accessible and broadly advertised to stakeholders;**
- (d) keeps complainants abreast of progress with cases brought forward;**
- (e) maintains records on all cases and issues brought forward for review, with due regard for the confidentiality of complainants' identity and of information; and**
- (f) takes appropriate and timely measures to minimize the risk of retaliation to complainants?**

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

The EA (COMESA) has established management procedures that will ensure the above has been met.

COMESA:

COMESA Court of Justice:

The COMESA Court of Justice performs the following functions: -

1. Generally, the Court has jurisdiction to adjudicate upon all matters which may be referred to it pursuant to the COMESA Treaty.
2. It shall interpret the provisions of the Treaty and whether an obligation by a Member State or the Council of Ministers has been infringed.
3. It shall determine the legality of any act, regulation, directive or decision of the Council where such act, regulation, directive or decision is ultra vires or unlawful or an infringement of the provisions of the Treaty or any other rule of law relating to its application or amounts to a misuse or abuse of power.
4. It shall determine whether, on a reference to it by the Secretary General, a Member State has failed to fulfil an obligation under the Treaty.
5. It shall determine on a reference to it by any person who is a resident in a Member State the legality of any act, regulation, directive or decision of the Council or of a Member State on the grounds that such act, directive, decision or regulation is unlawful or an infringement of the provisions of the Treaty, provided such a person has first exhausted local remedies in the national courts or tribunals of the Member State.
6. It shall hear disputes between the Common Market and its employees regarding the application and interpretation of the Staff Rules or disputes regarding the terms and conditions of employment.
7. It shall determine claims by any person against the Common Market or its Institutions for acts of their servants or employees in performance of their duties.
8. It shall hear and determine any matter referred to it under an Arbitration Clause contained in a Contract to which the Common Market or any of its Institutions is a party.
9. It shall hear and determine any matter arising from a dispute between Member States regarding the Treaty if the dispute is submitted to it under a Special agreement between the Member States concerned.
10. At the request of a national court it will give a preliminary ruling as to the application or interpretation of the Treaty or the validity of any act, regulation, directive or decision of the Common Market.
11. Where any question is referred to it by a national court to give a preliminary ruling in a case pending before such national court or tribunal of a Member State against whose judgement there is no judicial remedy under the national law of that Member State, the national court or tribunal shall refer the matter to the COMESA Court of Justice for determination.
12. The Court of First Instance Division shall consider and determine every reference made to it pursuant to the Treaty in accordance with the Rules of the Court, and shall deliver in public sessions reasoned judgements which, subject to the provision of the said Rules as to review shall be conclusive but open to appeals to the Appellate Division of the Court.
13. The First Instance Division of the Court shall hear and determine applications for revision of its judgements.

14. It shall give advisory opinions regarding questions of law arising from provisions of the Treaty affecting the Common Market on request by the Authority, the Council or a Member State.

How to access the COMESA court of Justice:

1. Online portal: The Committee can be accessed through the following online portal:
<https://comesacourt.org/contact-us/>
2. Telephone: 260 211 229 725
3. Postal Address: P.O BOX 30051, Ben Bella Road, Lusaka, Zambia.

The COMESA Technical Committees:

These are comprised of sector specific technical officials from the Member States. These committees are responsible for the preparation of comprehensive implementation programmes and timetables, which serve to prioritize the programmes with respect to each sector. In addition, they monitor and review the implementation of the programmes on co-operation and may request the Secretary-General to undertake specific investigations. Articles 15 and 16 of the Treaty stipulate that the Technical Committees of the Common Market shall be the following:

1. The Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters.
2. The Committee on Agriculture.
3. The Committee on Comprehensive Information Systems.
4. The Committee on Energy.
5. The Committee on Finance and Monetary Affairs.
6. The Committee on Industry.
7. The Committee on Labour, Human Resources and Social and Cultural Affairs.
8. The Committee on Legal Affairs.
9. The Committee on Natural Resources and Environment.
10. The Committee on Tourism and Wildlife.
11. The Committee on Statistical Matters.
12. The Committee on Trade and Customs; and
13. The Committee on Transport and Communications.

How to access the Technical committees: The Committee can be accessed through the following channels:

4. Online portal: The Committee can be accessed through the following online portal:
<https://comesacourt.org/contact-us/>
 5. Telephone: 260 211 229 725
- Postal Address: P.O BOX 30051, Ben Bella Road, Lusaka, Zambia.

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL GEF (CIGEF)

The CI-GEF Project Agency is fully streamlined with GEF policies and procedures, reducing the time needed to move a project through the GEF Project Cycle, thus mobilizing GEF resources as quickly as possible. As a small unit integrated within a global NGO, the CI-GEF Project Agency has operational flexibility as a private organization, with limited bureaucracy. All CI-GEF projects must adhere to the following policies and procedures:

- a) [Code of Ethics](#)
- b) [Environmental and Social Management Framework \(ESMF\)](#)
- c) Procurement Policy: [English](#) | [Español](#)
- d) [Monitoring and Evaluation Policy](#)
- e) [Cancellation Policy](#)
- f) [Accountability and Grievance Mechanism](#)
- g) [Logo Use Guidelines](#)

How to access CI-GEF:

1. CIGEF Manager Africa
2. CIGEF Director of Compliance responsible for the CI Accountability and Grievance Mechanism

Director of Compliance
Conservation International
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202, USA.

3. Conservation International Code of Ethics

Conservation International's reputation derives from commitment to the core values: Integrity, Respect, Courage, Optimism, and Passion and Teamwork. CI's Code of Ethics (the "Code") provides guidance to CI employees, consultants, independent experts, interns, and volunteers in living CI's core values, and outlines minimum standards for ethical conduct which all staff must adhere to.

CI relies on the personal integrity, good judgement and common sense of individuals acting on behalf of the organization to deal with issues not expressly addressed by the Code. Failure of a staff member to adhere to the Code may result in disciplinary action up to and, including discharge from employment and filing of criminal charges.

Any violations of the Code of Ethics should be reported to Conservation International via its Ethics Hotline at www.ci.ethicspoint.com.

CBIT PROJECT AGM (COMESA AND VS PROJECT LEADS):

In addition to the above platforms, an AGM specific to this project will be developed. The project's AGM will define the system by which inquiries, complaints or clarifications regarding the project are received, responded to, problems with implementation are resolved, and complaints and grievances are addressed efficiently and effectively. **The contacts of project Leads from COMESA and Vital Signs will be provided in the AGM.**

Additionally, channels of accessing the project Leads from COMESA and Vital Signs will also be provided.

Stakeholders should firstly reach out to project Leads from COMESA and Vital Signs:

a) Vital Signs Programme:

Attention: Dr. Peter Alele, Senior Director, Conservation Science Africa, Africa Vital Signs
P.O Box 1963-00502, Karen, Nairobi.
E-mail: palele@conservation.org

b) Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA):

Attention: Dr. Mclay Kanyangarara, COMESA Climate Change Coordinator,
P.O BOX 30051, Ben Bella Road, Lusaka, Zambia.
E-mail: mkanyangarara@comesa.int

Minimum Standard 3: Biodiversity Conservation and the Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Will the project:

- (a) involve adverse impacts on Critical Habitats⁴⁰, including forests that are Critical Habitats, including from the procurement of natural resource commodities, except for adverse impacts on a limited scale that result from conservation actions that achieve a Net Gain of the Biodiversity values associated with the Critical Habitat;
- (b) contravene applicable international environmental treaties or agreements; or
- (c) introduce or use potentially invasive, non-indigenous species?

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

Minimum Standard 4: Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

Will the project

- (a) involve the voluntary or involuntary resettlement of people.
- (b) restrict land use and access; or
- (c) cause economic displacement of people?

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

⁴⁰ Critical Habitat means a Habitat with high Biodiversity value, including (i) Habitats of significant importance to Critically Endangered or Endangered species, as listed on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of threatened species or equivalent national approaches, (ii) Habitats of significant importance to endemic or restricted-range species, (iii) Habitats supporting globally or nationally significant concentrations of migratory or congregatory species, (iv) highly threatened or unique ecosystems, and (v) ecological functions or characteristics that are needed to maintain the viability of the Biodiversity values described in (i) to (iv).

Minimum Standard 5: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES⁴¹

Does the project plan to:

- (a) work in lands or territories traditionally owned, customarily used, or occupied by indigenous peoples?
- (b) cause impacts on land and natural resources, including restrictions on land use or loss of access to natural resources, subject to traditional ownership or under customary use or occupation, or the location of a project or program on such land or the commercial development of such natural resources;
- (c) cause relocation of Indigenous Peoples from land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership, or under customary use or occupation; or
- (d) cause significant impacts on an Indigenous People’s cultural heritage that is material to the identity and/or cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual aspects of the affected Indigenous People's lives, or the use of such cultural heritage for commercial purposes.

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

Minimum Standard 6: Cultural Heritage⁴²

Will the project implement activities that affect cultural heritage?

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

⁴¹ According to CI Policy on Indigenous Peoples, “CI identifies indigenous peoples in specific geographic areas by the presence, in varying degrees, of: a) Close attachment to ancestral and traditional or customary territories and the natural resources in them; b) Customary social and political institutions; c) Economic systems oriented to subsistence production; d) An indigenous language, often different from the predominant language; and f) Self-identification and identification by others as members of a distinct cultural group”.

⁴² Cultural Heritage means both tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, natural features and landscapes that have archaeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance, located in urban or rural settings, above ground, underground or under water; as well as practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, or skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups, and in some cases individuals, recognize as part of their heritage, as transmitted from generation to generation and constantly recreated by them in response to nature and a shared history

Minimum Standard 7: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention

Will the project:

- (a) promote the trade in or use of any substances listed under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, or other chemicals or hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phaseouts due to high toxicity to living organisms, environmental persistence, potential for bioaccumulation, or potential depletion of the ozone layer, consistent with relevant international treaties and agreements;
- (b) generate wastes and effluents, and emissions of short- and long-lived climate pollutants;
- (c) involve pest management measures, Integrated Pest Management or Integrated Management of Vectors and Intermediate Hosts;
- (d) procure pesticides; or
- (e) use energy, water and other resources and material inputs, where significant water consumption is involved and would cause adverse impacts on communities, other water users, and the environment?

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

Minimum Standard 8: Labor and Working Conditions

Does the EA have in place the necessary policies, procedures, systems and capabilities to ensure that:

- (a) the fundamental rights of workers, consistent with the International Labour Organization’s (ILO) Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work are respected and protected;
- (b) written labor management procedures are established in accordance with applicable national laws;
- (c) workers are provided with clear and understandable documentation of employment terms and conditions, including their rights under national law to hours of work, wages, overtime, compensation and benefits;
- (d) workers are provided regular and timely payment of wages; adequate periods of rest, holiday, sick, maternity, paternity, and family leave; and written notice of termination and severance payments, as required under national laws and the labor management procedures;
- (e) decisions relating to any aspect of the employment relationship, including recruitment, hiring and treatment of workers, are made based on the principles of non-discrimination, equal opportunity and fair treatment, and not on the basis of personal characteristics unrelated to inherent job requirements;
- (f) appropriate measures are in place to prevent harassment, intimidation, and exploitation, and to protect vulnerable workers, including but not limited to women, children of working age, migrants and persons with disabilities;
- (g) workers who participate, or seek to participate, in workers’ organizations and collective bargaining, do so without interference, are not discriminated or retaliated against, and are provided with information needed for meaningful negotiation in a timely manner;
- (h) forced labor and child labor are not used in connection with the project or program;
- (i) occupational health and safety (OHS) measures are applied to establish and maintain a safe and healthy working environment;
- (j) workers are informed of applicable grievance and conflict resolution systems provided at the workplace level; and
- (k) workers may use these mechanisms without retribution, and the grievance and conflict resolution systems does not impede access to other judicial or administrative remedies available under the law or through existing arbitration procedures, or substitute for grievance systems provided through collective agreements?

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

COMESA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION: <https://www.comesa.int/services/administration-division/>

The Division of Administration offers a key support service to the COMESA Secretariat. The mandate of the division is to provide Member States, Executive Management, Secretariat and other stakeholders with the Administrative services and advice they need. The Division also ensures that all the resources, i.e. both budgetary and extra budgetary funds and human and physical assets, are properly accounted for in an efficient, secure and appropriately controlled Administrative environment.

The specific focus areas are as follows:

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Objective: To ensure that the Secretariat is adequately staffed with appropriately qualified, experienced and motivated personnel who are continuously developing their skills, knowledge and attitude to meet the challenges of Regional Integration. The Unit therefore plays the following role:

- Recruitment of staff under COMESA established & non established posts and the recruitment of staff under Projects
- Review and updating of job descriptions for the various posts, whenever necessary
- Preparation and Renewal of contracts for professional and general service staff in both established and non-established positions

- Implementation of Council decisions on all administrative and staff matters
- Implementation the approved staff development programmes
- Ensure implementation monitoring of the Performance Management System and the appropriate remuneration policy
- Improving the human resources record systems to ensure that the both the electronic and manual records are up to date
- Attend to staff welfare issues

CONFERENCES:

Objective: To provide support services to the Secretariat and Member States in terms of organisation and management of meetings including logistics and procurement of services required for the same. It is their responsibility to ensure that all meetings conducted by the Secretariat are properly organised and managed towards achieving the planned output of the meeting. This involves the following:

- Organizing appropriate venues for meetings
- Providing translation services for meetings
- Providing interpretation services for meetings
- Hiring of interpretation equipment
- Ensuring all technical facilities are in place and in good working order
- Providing documentation services for meetings

PROCUREMENT AND GENERAL SERVICES:

Objective: To effectively and efficiently provide quality goods and services required by the Secretariat to successfully implement its projects at the right time within approved resources. The Procurement and General Services section ensures that all procurement of goods, services and works is based on sound economic and financial principles such as transparency, competitiveness and cost-effectiveness. In addition the Unit performs other support functions such as arranging official travel, protocol duties including official functions, provision of communication and registry services, stores management and provision of official transport. The Unit performs the following key functions:

- Procurement planning;
- Advise requisitioning Divisions and Projects on the full range of procurement issues, providing support and guidance at all stages of the procurement cycle;
- Ensure procurement activities are processed in a timely and cost-effective manner that best fulfils the requirements of the Secretariat;
- Make transport and travel arrangements for staff and delegates,
- Inventory management

ESTATES:

Objective: The Estates Unit is responsible for the maintenance of all the Secretariat's fixed assets. These include the COMESA Centre and the Executive residences as well as all the movable and immovable assets. In pursuit of providing the Secretariat with a pleasant, safe and secure environment the Unit ensures that COMESA properties are well managed and maintained. This is done by the following activities:

- Constant maintenance of the buildings and repair of any defects,
- Housekeeping of public areas of the Secretariat both inside and outside the buildings,
- Provision and maintenance of office space, furniture, fixtures and fittings,
- Provision of Security services at the COMESA properties,
- Responsible for capital developments

Minimum Standard 9: Community Health, Safety and Security

Will the project:

- (a) potentially expose communities including disadvantaged or vulnerable groups or individuals in particular women and children to both accidental and natural hazards, particularly where the structural elements of the project or program are accessible to members of the affected community, or where their failure could result in injury to the community;
- (b) generate risks and impacts to the health and safety of the affected communities; or
- (c) pose potential conflicts at the project site to the affected communities or the workers?

NO

YES (If Yes, please provide details)

IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Identify any other risks not captured in Section III that can affect the success of the project.

Also, describe any important external factors that may affect your project from implementing safeguard measures/plans.

Corona Virus Pandemic (COVID19):

The project recognizes that the Corona Virus Pandemic (COVID19) may cause delays and/or slow down implementation of project activities such as: delays to set-up the project; delays to recruit project staff; delay/long periods before the imported GHGI hardware arrive in the country and low stakeholder engagement/ turn out.

In-order to mitigate the risks outlined above, the project proposes the following mitigation measures:

- a) The project will prepare and implement relevant safeguard plans which will clearly indicate activities being put in place to address risks triggered by COVID19. These safeguards include: Labor and Working Conditions; Community Health, Safety and Security; Accountability and Grievance Mechanism and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan;
- b) The project team will prepare and submit quarterly technical and Financial reports to CIGEF. The reports will clearly indicate project implementation progress, any delays and adaptive measures being put in place by project team. This will enable the Agency to provide guidance on how best to adapt to the situation on the ground from a technical and financial perspective.;

- c) The project team will develop and implement the project's Adaptive Management Plan to the COVID19 situation. This plan will also provide activities that will be implemented by the project manager (lead) to ensure the team delivers selected project activities while working remotely.
- d) During implementation phase, the project budget will cover recurrent costs for purchasing hand sanitizers, face masks, gloves etc. for project staff.; and
- e) The project will create a COVID19 repository and prepare a communication strategy for disseminating information related to COVID19 with project teams and stakeholders. This will also entail communicating to stakeholders the impact COVID19 will have on the project and the adaptive measures that will be put in place by the project