Mid-Term Review Terms of Reference

Standard Template 1: Formatted for attachment to <u>UNDP Procurement</u> Website

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the UNDP-GEF Midterm Review (MTR) of the full-sized project titled Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (PIMS 5862) implemented through the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Transformation, Forestry, Fisheries, Industry and Labour, which is to be undertaken in February 2022. The project started on the 15th February 2021, and is in its first year of implementation. In line with the UNDP-GEF Guidance on MTRs, this MTR process was initiated before the submission of the second Project Implementation Report (PIR). This ToR sets out the expectations for this MTR. The MTR process must follow the guidance outlined in the document *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* (http://web.undp.org/evaluation/documents/guidance/GEF/midterm/Guidance Midterm%20Review%20 EN 2014.pdf).

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The main objective of the project Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach with financing from the Global Environment Facility with support from UNDP is to enhance biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services conservation through an expanded and strengthened PA system and with SLM measures integrated in a ridge to reef approach. The Project objective has been designed by using a multi-focal strategy that includes the development of a national enabling environment (i.e. policy/legal framework, availability and access to information, capacities, technologies, and finance mechanisms) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in four interrelated outcomes: 1) Strengthened institutional framework for protected areas, biodiversity conservation and SLM/CSA; 2) Effective management of new and existing Pas; 3) Integrated watershed management measures in R2R setting incorporating sustainable livelihood opportunities and; 4) Knowledge management for SLM, CSA and biodiversity conservation. The GEF investment will address the drivers of biodiversity loss (habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation due primarily to unsustainable land use practices and human encroachment, threats that are further compounded by the impacts of climate change and IAS) that will reduce biodiversity loss and land degradation both within PAs and within the mixed-use landscape. The project will deliver global environmental benefits using a participatory approach and ensuring the equal distribution of benefits among men and women, with 346 benefiting from the Project, and resulting in the consolidation and strengthened protection of a 13,214 ha terrestrial PA covering the entire upper watersheds of St Vincent and 7 KBAs, providing landscape connectivity to a 2183 ha marine park through a ridge to reef approach and improving protection of at minimum 63 ha of the sole remaining habitat of a critically endangered (CR) single island endemic.

3. MTR PURPOSE

The MTR will assess progress towards the achievement of the project objectives and outcomes as specified in the Project Document and assess early signs of project success or failure with the goal of identifying the necessary changes to be made in order to set the project on-track to achieve its intended results. The MTR will also review the project's strategy, its risks to sustainability.

4. MTR APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

The MTR must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The MTR team will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e. PIF, UNDP Initiation Plan, UNDP Environmental & Social Safeguard Policy, the Project Document, project reports including Annual Project Review/PIRs, project budget revisions, lesson learned reports, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the team considers useful for this evidence-based review). The MTR team will review the baseline GEF focal area Tracking Tool submitted to the GEF at CEO endorsement, and the midterm GEF focal area Tracking Tool that must be completed before the MTR field mission begins.

The MTR team is expected to follow a collaborative and participatory approach¹ ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts (the GEF Operational Focal Point), the UNDP Country Office(s), UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisers, and other key stakeholders.

Engagement of stakeholders is vital to a successful MTR.² Stakeholder involvement should include interviews with stakeholders who have project responsibilities, including but not limited to the Programme Manager for Climate Change, Energy and the Environment, Project Coordinator, Project Assistant, executing agencies, senior officials and task team/component leaders, key experts and consultants in the subject area, Project Board, project stakeholders, academia, local government and CSOs, etc. Additionally, the MTR team is expected to conduct field missions to St. Vincent and the Grenadines where possible.

The specific design and methodology for the MTR should emerge from consultations between the MTR team and the above-mentioned parties regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the MTR purpose and objectives and answering the evaluation questions, given limitations of budget, time and data. The MTR team must use gender-responsive methodologies and tools and ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as other cross-cutting issues and SDGs are incorporated into the MTR report.

The final methodological approach including interview schedule, field visits and data to be used in the MTR must be clearly outlined in the Inception Report and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders and the MTR team.

The final MTR report should describe the full MTR approach taken and the rationale for the approach making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths and weaknesses about the methods and approach of the review.

5. DETAILED SCOPE OF THE MTR

The MTR team will assess the following four categories of project progress. See the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* for extended descriptions.

i. Project Strategy

Project design:

¹ For ideas on innovative and participatory Monitoring and Evaluation strategies and techniques, see <u>UNDP Discussion Paper:</u> <u>Innovations in Monitoring & Evaluating Results</u>, 05 Nov 2013.

² For more stakeholder engagement in the M&E process, see the <u>UNDP Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results</u>, Chapter 3, pg. 93.

- Review the problem addressed by the project and the underlying assumptions. Review the effect of
 any incorrect assumptions or changes to the context to achieving the project results as outlined in the
 Project Document.
- Review the relevance of the project strategy and assess whether it provides the most effective route towards expected/intended results. Were lessons from other relevant projects properly incorporated into the project design?
- Review how the project addresses country priorities. Review country ownership. Was the project
 concept in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the country (or of
 participating countries in the case of multi-country projects)?
- Review decision-making processes: were perspectives of those who would be affected by project decisions, those who could affect the outcomes, and those who could contribute information or other resources to the process, taken into account during project design processes?
- Review the extent to which relevant gender issues were raised in the project design. See Annex 9 of Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects for further guidelines.
 - Were relevant gender issues (e.g. the impact of the project on gender equality in the programme country, involvement of women's groups, engaging women in project activities) raised in the Project Document?
- If there are major areas of concern, recommend areas for improvement.

Results Framework/Logframe:

- Undertake a critical analysis of the project's logframe indicators and targets, assess how "SMART" the midterm and end-of-project targets are (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound), and suggest specific amendments/revisions to the targets and indicators as necessary.
- Are the project's objectives and outcomes or components clear, practical, and feasible within its time frame?
- Examine if progress so far has led to, or could in the future catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women's empowerment, improved governance etc...) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis.
- Ensure broader development and gender aspects of the project are being monitored effectively. Develop and recommend SMART 'development' indicators, including sex-disaggregated indicators and indicators that capture development benefits.

ii. Progress Towards Results

Progress Towards Outcomes Analysis:

Review the logframe indicators against progress made towards the end-of-project targets using the
Progress Towards Results Matrix and following the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects*; colour code progress in a "traffic light system" based on the level of
progress achieved; assign a rating on progress for each outcome; make recommendations from the
areas marked as "Not on target to be achieved" (red).

Table. Progress Towards Results Matrix (Achievement of outcomes against End-of-project Targets)

Project Strategy	Indicator ³	Baseline Level ⁴	Level in 1st PIR (self- reporte d)	Midterm Target ⁵	End-of-project Target	Midt erm Level & Asse ssme nt ⁶	Achie vemen t Ratin g^7	Justific ation for Rating
Project Objective: To enhance biodiversit y conservati on and ecosystem services conservati on through an expanded and strengthen ed PA system and with SLM measures integrated in a ridge to reef approach.	Mandatory Indicator 1: Number of new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national and/or sub- national level, disaggregated by partnership type.	0		4 Private sector: 1 NGO/CBO: 2 Donor: 1	9 Private sector: 3 NGO/CBO: 4 Donor: 2			

³ Populate with data from the Logframe and scorecards

⁴ Populate with data from the Project Document ⁵ If available

⁶ Colour code this column only

⁷ Use the 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale: HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU

	Mandatory indicator 2: # of direct project beneficiaries (men and women farmers/agricultural labourers, women and men along value chains) benefiting from livelihoods created through sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystem services, in the project prioritized landscapes, disaggregated by sex. (GEF Core Indicator 11)	0	a) Women: 48 (at least 30% of total beneficiaries) b) Men: 112 c) Additional females benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % d) Additional males benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % Note: Target will be confirmed during Year 1 of Project implementation	a) Women: 254 (at least 30% of total beneficiaries) b) Men: 592 c) Additional females benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % d) Additional males benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % Note: Target will be confirmed during Year 1 of Project implementation and monitored throughout project implementation		
	Indicator 3: Number of the following globally threatened endemic species whose populations have remained stable or increased by EOP: Amazona guildingii Chironius vincenti Pristimantis shrevei Catharopeza bishopi Gonatodes daudini	0	0	5 Amazona guildingii, Chironius vincenti, Pristimantis shrevei, Catharopeza bishopi, Gonatodes daudini.		
Componen t1: Strengthene d institutional framework for Protected Areas, Ecosystem	Indicator 4 # of targeted departments with effective use of centralized database with information for informed decision-making, as indicated by reporting of routine use (of agency outcome indicators) in annual work programme by the agencies	O Forestry Department Fisheries Department National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority Physical Planning	O Forestry Department Fisheries Department National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority Physical Planning	Forestry Department Fisheries Department National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority Physical Planning		

Conservatio	Indicator 5	0	0	6	
		-			
n and	Number of policy, legislative,	Forest Policy	Forest Policy	Forest Policy	
Sustainable	regulatory and planning	PA Policy	PA Policy (revised)	PA Policy	
Land Use in	instruments	(revised)	PA System Plan	(revised)	
St Vincent	developed/revised (with	PA System	(revised)	PA System Plan	
and the	support for submission to	Plan (revised)	PA Mgt Plan	(revised)	
Grenadines	Cabinet) that integrate	PA Mgt Plan	Integrated Watershed	PA Mgt Plan	
	Sustainable Land	Integrated	Mgt Plan	Integrated	
Outcome	Management (SLM), CSA,	Watershed	National Land Policy	Watershed Mgt	
1.1	gender responsiveness and/or	Mgt Plan		Plan	
Enhanced	biodiversity conservation.	National Land		National Land	
multi-		Policy		Policy	
		Note: A			
department		legislative			
al access to		review will			
centralized		take place			
database		during Year 1			
system,		to decide			
incorporatin		what policy			
g		legislation,			
biodiversity		regulations			
(BD),		and/or			
ecosystem		guidelines will			
services,		be			
land use /		updated/revis			
*		ed. The above			
cover,		mentioned			
protected		have been			
areas,		identified by			
climate and		the key			
soil data, to		government			
support		stakeholders.			
natural	Indicator 6:	42% (overall	+5% (overall score)	+20% (overall	
resource	Change in capacities of key	score)	Capacities to	score)	
conservatio	government institutions for	Capacities to	Generate, Access and	Capacities to	
n and land	biodiversity conservation, PA	Generate,	Use Information and	Generate,	
use decision	management and integrated	Access and	Knowledge: Baseline	Access and Use	
making.	natural resource	Use	+5%	Information and	
	management	Information		Knowledge:	
Outcome		and	Capacities for	Baseline +20%	
1.2.		Knowledge:	Strategy, Policy and		
Institutional		33%	Legislation	Capacities for	
frameworks		Capacities for	development: Baseline	Strategy, Policy	
and human		Strategy,	+ 5%	and Legislation	
resource		Policy and	Capacities to monitor	development:	
capacities		Legislation	and evaluate: Baseline	Baseline + 15%	
-		development:	+ 5%	Capacities to	
strengthene		44%		monitor and	
d for the		Capacities to		evaluate:	
operationali		monitor		Baseline + 20%	
zation of		and evaluate:		Note: End of	
the Forest		33%		Project target to	
Policy, PA		33/0		be confirmed	
Policy and				during inception	
PA system				workshop	
				ννοικοιιομ	

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plan as well	Indicator 7:	60 (overall	+5% (overall score)	+30% (overall		
as for the	Financial sustainability of the	score)		score)		
implementa	PAs system, as indicated by					
tion of	the rating of the GEF TT					
related laws	Financial Scorecard.					
and						
regulations,						
resulting in						
improved						
biodiversity						
and						
ecosystem						
conservatio						
n and						
reduced						
forest loss						
and land						
degradation.						
Outcome						
1.3.						
Increased						
capacities						
for financial						
sustainabilit						
y.						
Componen						
Componen	Indicator 8:	Central	Central Mountain	Central		
_	Indicator 8: Change in management	Central Mountain	Central Mountain Forest Reserve: 60	Central Mountain Forest		
<u>t 2:</u>	Change in management	Mountain	Forest Reserve: 60	Mountain Forest		
t 2: National	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial	Mountain Forest		Mountain Forest Reserve: 70		
t 2: National capacity	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay:		
t 2: National capacity built to	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay:	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50		
t 2: National capacity built to provide	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial,	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50		
t 2: National capacity built to provide	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial,	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast		
National capacity built to provide financial, technical,	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1:	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve – La Soufrière		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve – La Soufrière National Park		
hational capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for supporting	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve – La Soufrière National Park – Mount		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve – La Soufrière National Park – Mount Pleasant Forest		
hational capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for supporting	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve – La Soufrière National Park – Mount Pleasant Forest Reserve		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for supporting SLM and	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% - Cumberland Forest Reserve - Colonarie Forest Reserve - Dalaway Forest Reserve - Kingstown Forest Reserve - La Soufrière National Park - Mount Pleasant Forest Reserve - Richmond		
t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for supporting SLM and	Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal	Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27 1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35 1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest	Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50 7 KBA, 47% – Cumberland Forest Reserve – Colonarie Forest Reserve – Dalaway Forest Reserve – Kingstown Forest Reserve – La Soufrière National Park – Mount Pleasant Forest Reserve		

national	Indicator 10:	0	0	3 PAs covering	
level	Number of the following new			at minimum	
	marine and terrestrial PAs			15,460 ha	
Outcome	legally gazetted, as measured			- Central	
2.2:	by the expansion in the			Mountain Forest	
National	coverage of the national PA			Reserve (13,214	
level	estate in ha			ha)	
capacities	-Central Mountain Forest			- Chatham Bay	
enhanced	Reserve (13,214 ha)			(63 ha, tbd)	
for CSA	-Chatham Bay (63 ha, tbd)			- Leeward Coast	
production	(GEF Core Indicator 1.1)			Marine Park	
production				(2,183 ha)	
	-Leeward Coast Marine Park				
	(2,183 ha)				
	(GEF Core Indicator 2.1)				

Indicator 11: Conservation of critical habitat within the Protected Area targeted by the project: - For est cover at 4 terrestrial PAs, as measured by # of hectares (interpretation of new/current satellite images) - Coral reef health in Marine Park site, as measured by 1 Percent live hard coral cover - Number of coral recruits (< 5cm) per marge. - Number of coral recruits (< 5cm) per marge. - Rate of flesshy microalgae; as measured by % substrate of flesshy microalgae; as measured by % will be a fless of flesshy microalgae; as measured by % substrate of flesshy microalgae; and flexible of flexible
of critical habitat within the Protected Area targeted by the project: For est cover at 4 terrestrial PAs, as measured by # of hectares (interpretatio n of new/current sattellite images) TBD during Vear 1 TBD during No not decrease No decrease No decrease No increase No increas
of critical habitat within the Protected Area targeted by the project: • For est cover at 4 terrestrial PAs, as measured by # of hectares (interpretatio n of new/current satellite images) • Coral reef heath in Marine Park site, as measured by: • Percent live hard coral cover - Number of coral recruits (-5 cm) per m2 / E - Rate of fleshy microalgae; as measured by % substrate with park states of fleshy microalgae; as measured by % substrate with park of flesh wit
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seagrass bed, TBD
as measured during
by # of Year 1
hectares
Health of
selected reef

	fish populations, as measured by: - Abundance per m2 - Species richness	TBD during Year 1 TBD during Year 1				
Component 3: Integrated watershed management measures in R2R setting to reduce threats to upstream PA and downstream MPA/MMA Outcome 3.1 SLM and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) techniques and technologies implemented by local communities in 3 upper watersheds (Buccament, Yambou and Kingstown) covering 1200 ha	Indicator 12: Nutrient content, as reflected by total nitrogen (TN) in downstream watercourse and Quantity of sediments in downstream watercourses in the Buccament watershed as measured by TSS (Total Suspended Solids - particulate matter)	Baseline to be determine d during the 1st year of the project Baseline to be determine d during the 1st year of the project	Baseline or < baseline Baseline or < baseline	Baseline – 15% Baseline – 15%		
resulting in threats to ecosystem functions (encroachment, pollution, sedimentation) are reduced in landscapes surrounding the Central Mountain Forest Reserve and downstream	Indicator 13: % of farms targeted in watershed with an improved income resulting from applying enhanced CSA and SLM practices	Baseline to be determine d in first year of the project	Baseline + 4% Note: TBD during inception Workshop	Baseline + 10% Note: TBD during inceptio n Worksho p		

acceptal as discount	I a al a a 4 4 4 -	0 5-5	77 h.a	E44 b -		
coastal and marine	Indicator 14: Area of land	0 ha 0 ha	77 ha restored	514 ha restored		
sites	restored,	Ulla	including	including		
0 4	disaggregated		60 ha	- 396 ha		
Outcome 3.2	by land type		agricultur	agricultu		
Validated SLM	(agricultural		al land	ral land		
practices support	and forest)		and 17 ha	and 118		
ridge to reef	(GEF Core		forest	ha forest		
management	Indicators 3.1		land	land		
process and	& 3.2)					
provide inputs to	Landscape					
national level	area (ha)					
INRM strategy	under		102 ha	686 ha		
and regulation	improved					
	SLM practices					
Outcome 3.3	in productive					
Increased	systems in					
diversification of	the 3 target					
income in	watersheds					
households	(Bucccament,					
disaggregated by	Yambourand					
gender	Kingstown)					
	(GEF Core					
	Indicators					
	4.3)					
Component 4:	Indicator 15:	0	5	10		
Knowledge	Number of	0	3	10		
management for	lessons/exper					
SLM, CSA and						
biodiversity	iences					
conservation	disseminated					
Conscivation	on					
Outcome 4.1:	experiences					
Increased	in the					
adoption of	incorporation					
practices as a	of					
result of the	conservation					
dissemination of	of					
knowledge and	biodiversity,					
best practices	-					
best practices	SLM, and CSA					

developed under	Indicator 16:	Baseline	Baseline +	Baseline		
this project.	Number of	(TBD	10%	+ 25%		
	men and	during 1st				
	women who	6 months				
	practice	implemen				
	agriculture	tation)				
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	and					
	consistent					
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	the					
	importance					
	and benefits					
	of					
	biodiversity					
	conservation					
	and					
	sustainable					
	land					
	management.					

Indicator Assessment Key

Green= Achieved Yellow= On target to be achieved Red= Not on target to be achieved

In addition to the progress towards outcomes analysis:

- Compare and analyse the GEF Tracking Tool at the Baseline with the one completed right before the Midterm Review.
- Identify remaining barriers to achieving the project objective in the remainder of the project.
- By reviewing the aspects of the project that have already been successful, identify ways in which the project can further expand these benefits.

iii. Project Implementation and Adaptive Management

Management Arrangements:

- Review overall effectiveness of project management as outlined in the Project Document. Have changes been made and are they effective? Are responsibilities and reporting lines clear? Is decision-making transparent and undertaken in a timely manner? Recommend areas for improvement.
- Review the quality of execution of the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner(s) and recommend areas for improvement.
- Review the quality of support provided by the GEF Partner Agency (UNDP) and recommend areas for improvement.
- Do the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and/or UNDP and other partners have the capacity to deliver benefits to or involve women? If yes, how?
- What is the gender balance of project staff? What steps have been taken to ensure gender balance in project staff?
- What is the gender balance of the Project Board? What steps have been taken to ensure gender balance in the Project Board?

Work Planning:

- Review any delays in project start-up and implementation, identify the causes and examine if they have been resolved.
- Are work-planning processes results-based? If not, suggest ways to re-orientate work planning to focus on results?
- Examine the use of the project's results framework/ logframe as a management tool and review any changes made to it since project start.

Finance and co-finance:

- Consider the financial management of the project, with specific reference to the cost-effectiveness of interventions.
- Review the changes to fund allocations as a result of budget revisions and assess the appropriateness and relevance of such revisions.
- Does the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds?
- Informed by the co-financing monitoring table to be filled out, provide commentary on co-financing is co-financing being used strategically to help the objectives of the project? Is the Project Team meeting with all co-financing partners regularly in order to align financing priorities and annual work plans?

Sources of Co- financing	Name of Co- financer	Type of Co- financing	Co-financing amount confirmed at CEO Endorsement (US\$)	Actual Amount Contributed at stage of Midterm Review (US\$)	Actual % of Expected Amount
		TOTAL			

• Include the separate GEF Co-Financing template (filled out by the Commissioning Unit and project team) which categorizes each co-financing amount as 'investment mobilized' or 'recurrent expenditures'. (This template will be annexed as a separate file.)

Project-level Monitoring and Evaluation Systems:

- Review the monitoring tools currently being used: Do they provide the necessary information? Do they involve key partners? Are they aligned or mainstreamed with national systems? Do they use existing information? Are they efficient? Are they cost-effective? Are additional tools required? How could they be made more participatory and inclusive?
- Examine the financial management of the project monitoring and evaluation budget. Are sufficient resources being allocated to monitoring and evaluation? Are these resources being allocated effectively?
- Review the extent to which relevant gender issues were incorporated in monitoring systems. See Annex
 9 of Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects for further guidelines.

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Project management: Has the project developed and leveraged the necessary and appropriate partnerships with direct and tangential stakeholders?
- Participation and country-driven processes: Do local and national government stakeholders support the objectives of the project? Do they continue to have an active role in project decision-making that supports efficient and effective project implementation?
- Participation and public awareness: To what extent has stakeholder involvement and public awareness contributed to the progress towards achievement of project objectives?
- How does the project engage women and girls? Is the project likely to have the same positive and/or negative effects on women and men, girls and boys? Identify, if possible, legal, cultural, or religious constraints on women's participation in the project. What can the project do to enhance its gender benefits?

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

- Validate the risks identified in the project's most current SESP, and those risks' ratings; are any revisions needed?
- Summarize and assess the revisions made since CEO Endorsement/Approval (if any) to:
 - o The project's overall safeguards risk categorization.
 - o The identified types of risks⁸ (in the SESP).
 - o The individual risk ratings (in the SESP).
- Describe and assess progress made in the implementation of the project's social and environmental management measures as outlined in the SESP submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval (and prepared during implementation, if any), including any revisions to those measures. Such management measures might include Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or other management plans, though can also include aspects of a project's design; refer to Question 6 in the SESP template for a summary of the identified management measures.
 - A given project should be assessed against the version of UNDP's safeguards policy that was in effect at the time of the project's approval.

Reporting:

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- Assess how adaptive management changes have been reported by the project management and shared with the Project Board.
- Assess how well the Project Team and partners undertake and fulfil GEF reporting requirements (i.e. how have they addressed poorly-rated PIRs, if applicable?)
- Assess how lessons derived from the adaptive management process have been documented, shared with key partners and internalized by partners.

Communications & Knowledge Management:

- Review internal project communication with stakeholders: Is communication regular and effective? Are there key stakeholders left out of communication? Are there feedback mechanisms when communication is received? Does this communication with stakeholders contribute to their awareness of project outcomes and activities and investment in the sustainability of project results?
- Review external project communication: Are proper means of communication established or being established to express the project progress and intended impact to the public (is there a web presence, for example? Or did the project implement appropriate outreach and public awareness campaigns?)

⁸ Risks are to be labeled with both the UNDP SES Principles and Standards, and the GEF's "types of risks and potential impacts": Climate Change and Disaster; Disadvantaged or Vulnerable Individuals or Groups; Disability Inclusion; Adverse Gender-Related impact, including Gender-based Violence and Sexual Exploitation; Biodiversity Conservation and the Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources; Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement; Indigenous Peoples; Cultural Heritage; Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention; Labor and Working Conditions; Community Health, Safety and Security.

- For reporting purposes, write one half-page paragraph that summarizes the project's progress towards
 results in terms of contribution to sustainable development benefits, as well as global environmental
 benefits.
- List knowledge activities/products developed (based on knowledge management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval).

iv. Sustainability

- Validate whether the risks identified in the Project Document, Annual Project Review/PIRs and the ATLAS Risk Management Module are the most important and whether the risk ratings applied are appropriate and up to date. If not, explain why.
- In addition, assess the following risks to sustainability:

Financial risks to sustainability:

What is the likelihood of financial and economic resources not being available once the GEF assistance
ends (consider potential resources can be from multiple sources, such as the public and private sectors,
income generating activities, and other funding that will be adequate financial resources for sustaining
project's outcomes)?

Socio-economic risks to sustainability:

• Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outcomes? What is the risk that the level of stakeholder ownership (including ownership by governments and other key stakeholders) will be insufficient to allow for the project outcomes/benefits to be sustained? Do the various key stakeholders see that it is in their interest that the project benefits continue to flow? Is there sufficient public / stakeholder awareness in support of the long term objectives of the project? Are lessons learned being documented by the Project Team on a continual basis and shared/transferred to appropriate parties who could learn from the project and potentially replicate and/or scale it in the future?

Institutional Framework and Governance risks to sustainability:

• Do the legal frameworks, policies, governance structures and processes pose risks that may jeopardize sustenance of project benefits? While assessing this parameter, also consider if the required systems/mechanisms for accountability, transparency, and technical knowledge transfer are in place.

Environmental risks to sustainability:

Are there any environmental risks that may jeopardize sustenance of project outcomes?

Conclusions & Recommendations

The MTR team will include a section of the report setting out the MTR's evidence-based conclusions, in light of the findings.9

Additionally, the MTR consultant/team is expected to make recommendations to the Project Team.

Recommendations should be succinct suggestions for critical intervention that are specific, measurable, achievable, and relevant. A recommendation table should be put in the report's executive summary. See the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* for guidance on a recommendation table.

The MTR team should make no more than 15 recommendations total.

⁹ Alternatively, MTR conclusions may be integrated into the body of the report.

Ratings

The MTR team will include its ratings of the project's results and brief descriptions of the associated achievements in a MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table in the Executive Summary of the MTR report. See Annex E for ratings scales. No rating on Project Strategy and no overall project rating is required.

Table. MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table for the project titled Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Measure	MTR Rating	Achievement Description
Project Strategy	N/A	
Progress Towards	Objective Achievement	
Results	Rating: (rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 1	
	Achievement Rating:	
	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 2	
	Achievement Rating:	
	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 3	
	Achievement Rating:	
	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Etc.	
Project	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
Implementation &		
Adaptive		
Management		
Sustainability	(rate 4 pt. scale)	

6. TIMEFRAME

The total duration of the MTR will be approximately 30 days over a time period of 10 weeks starting from the date of contract signature and shall not exceed 5 months from when the consultants are hired. The tentative MTR timeframe is as follows:

ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS	COMPLETION DATE
Document review and preparing MTR Inception Report (MTR Inception Report due no later than 2 weeks before the MTR mission)	4 days (recommended: 2- 4 days)	November 1, 2021
MTR mission: stakeholder meetings, interviews, field visits	15 days (recommended: 7-15 days)	November 24, 2021
NB: The mission is tentative and will depend on the sanitary restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If it cannot be completed on-site, interviews will be carried out virtually. The stakeholder interviews, if done virtually, may require a longer than usual time		

period. Please adjust the number of days and completion date to accommodate this.		
Presentation of initial findings- last day of the MTR mission	1 day	November 29, 2021
Preparing draft report (due within 3 weeks of the MTR mission)	10 days (recommended: 5-10 days)	December 8, 2021
Finalization of MTR report/ Incorporating audit trail from feedback on draft report (due within 1 week of receiving UNDP comments on the draft) (note: accommodate time delay in dates for circulation and review of the draft report)	4 days (recommended: 3-4 days)	December 17, 2021

Options for site visits should be provided in the Inception Report.

7. MIDTERM REVIEW DELIVERABLES

#	Deliverable	Description	Timing	Responsibilities
1	MTR Inception	MTR team clarifies	No later than 1	MTR team submits to
	Report	objectives and methods of	week before the	the Commissioning Unit
		Midterm Review	MTR mission:	and project
				management
2	Presentation	Initial Findings	End of MTR	MTR Team presents to
			mission:	project management,
				the Implementing
				Partners and the
				Commissioning Unit
3	Draft Final	Full report (using	Within 2 weeks of	Sent to the
	Report	guidelines on content	the MTR mission:	Commissioning Unit,
		outlined in Annex B) with		reviewed by RTA,
		annexes		Project Coordinating
				Unit, GEF OFP
4	Final Report*	Revised report with audit	Within 2 weeks of	Sent to the
		trail detailing how all	receiving UNDP	Commissioning Unit
		received comments have	comments on draft:	
		(and have not) been		
		addressed in the final		
		MTR report		

^{*}The final MTR report must be in English. If applicable, the Commissioning Unit may choose to arrange for a translation of the report into a language more widely shared by national stakeholders.

8. MTR ARRANGEMENTS

The principal responsibility for managing this MTR resides with the Commissioning Unit. The Commissioning Unit for this project's MTR is the UNDP Barbados and the OECS Sub-Regional Office.

The Commissioning Unit will contract the consultants and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within St. Vincent and the Grenadines for the MTR team and will provide an updated stakeholder list with contact details (phone and email). The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the MTR team to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.

9. TEAM COMPOSITION

A team of two independent evaluators will conduct the MTR – one team leader (with experience and exposure to projects and evaluations in other regions) and one team expert, usually from the country of the project. The team leader will conduct interviews with local counterparts alongside the local consultant, be responsible for the overall design and writing of key reports and supporting documents (Inception and MTR report), analyze and interpret data collected, present findings (alongside the local consultant), deduce key lessons, insights and recommendations and ensure these are reflected in the relevant reports. The team expert will organize and conduct interviews/meetings with local counterparts, work with the Project Team in developing the MTR itinerary, conduct site visits (if necessary) to verify the achievement of deliverables/completion of key activities, review all draft documents and provide detailed inputs and comments.

The consultants cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation, and/or implementation (including the writing of the Project Document) and should not have a conflict of interest with project's related activities.

The selection of consultants will be aimed at maximizing the overall "team" qualities in the following areas:

Criteria	Maximum	Maximum score for:		
	Team leader	Team expert		
Recent experience with result-based management	15	10		
evaluation methodologies				
Experience applying SMART indicators and	15	10		
reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios				
Competence in adaptive management, as applied to	10	15		
biodiversity				
Experience working with the GEF or GEF	20	10		
evaluations				
Experience working in the Caribbean	5	15		
Experience with national, multi-sectoral stakeholder	15	5		
engagement				
Demonstrated understanding of issues related to	5	15		
gender, and biodiversity; experience in gender				
sensitive evaluation and analysis				
Project evaluation/review experience within UN	10	10		
system				
A Master's degree in natural resources management,	5	10		
environmental science, biodiversity, business, public				
policy, rural development, or other closely related				
field				
TOTAL	100	100		

Education

- A Master's degree in in natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, climate change, water resources management, ecosystems/PA/ management, environmental science, public policy, rural development, or related field
- Certification in project management is an asset.

Experience

- Relevant experience with result-based management evaluation methodologies;
- Experience applying SMART indicators and reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios;
- Competence in adaptive management, as applied to biodiversity conservation
- Experience in evaluating projects;
- Experience working in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Experience in relevant technical areas for at least 10 years;
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and biodiversity conservation. Experience in gender sensitive evaluation and analysis.
- Excellent communication skills;
- Demonstrable analytical skills;
- Project evaluation/review experiences within United Nations system will be considered an asset.

Language

Fluency in written and spoken English.

10. ETHICS

The MTR team will be held to the highest ethical standards and is required to sign a code of conduct upon acceptance of the assignment. This MTR will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. The MTR team must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The MTR team must also ensure security of collected information before and after the MTR and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information, knowledge and data gathered in the MTR process must also be solely used for the MTR and not for other uses without the express authorization of UNDP and partners.

11. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- 20% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final MTR Inception Report and approval by the Commissioning Unit
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the draft MTR report to the Commissioning Unit
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final MTR report and approval by the Commissioning
 Unit and RTA (via signatures on the MTR Report Clearance Form) and delivery of completed MTR
 Audit Trail

Criteria for issuing the final payment of 40%10:

- The final MTR report includes all requirements outlined in the MTR TOR and is in accordance with the MTR guidance.
- The final MTR report is clearly written, logically organized, and is specific for this project (i.e. text has not been cut & pasted from other MTR reports).
- The Audit Trail includes responses to and justification for each comment listed.

12. APPLICATION PROCESS¹¹

Recommended Presentation of Proposal:

a) Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability using the <u>template</u>¹² provided by UNDP;

b) CV and a Personal History Form (P11 form¹³);

¹⁰ The Commissioning Unit is obligated to issue payments to the MTR team as soon as the terms under the ToR are fulfilled. If there is an ongoing discussion regarding the quality and completeness of the final deliverables that cannot be resolved between the Commissioning Unit and the MTR team, the Regional M&E Advisor and Vertical Fund Directorate will be consulted. If needed, the Commissioning Unit's senior management, Procurement Services Unit and Legal Support Office will be notified as well so that a decision can be made about whether or not to withhold payment of any amounts that may be due to the evaluator(s), suspend or terminate the contract and/or remove the individual contractor from any applicable rosters. See the UNDP Individual Contract Policy for further details:

https://popp.undp.org/ layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PSU_In_dividual%20Contract_Individual%20Contract%20Policy.docx&action=default

¹¹ Engagement of the consultants should be done in line with guidelines for hiring consultants in the POPP: https://info.undp.org/global/popp/Pages/default.aspx

 $[\]frac{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support\%20documents\%20on\%20IC\%20Guidelines/Template\%20for\%20Confirmation\%20of\%20Interest\%20and\%20Submission\%20of\%20Financial\%20Proposal.docx}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support\%20documents\%20on\%20ICM20Guidelines/Template\%20for%20Confirmation\%20of%20Interest\%20and%20Submission%20of%20Financial\%20Proposal.docx}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents\%20on%20ICM20Guidelines/Template%20for%20Confirmation%20of%20Interest%20and%20Submission%20of%20Financial%20Proposal.docx}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Sup$

¹³ http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/Careers/P11 Personal history form.doc

- c) **Brief description of approach to work/technical proposal** of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a proposed methodology on how they will approach and complete the assignment; (max 1 page)
- d) Financial Proposal that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price and all other travel related costs (such as flight ticket, per diem, etc), supported by a breakdown of costs, as per template attached to the Letter of Confirmation of Interest template. If an applicant is employed by an organization/company/institution, and he/she expects his/her employer to charge a management fee in the process of releasing him/her to UNDP under Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA), the applicant must indicate at this point, and ensure that all such costs are duly incorporated in the financial proposal submitted to UNDP.

All application materials should be submitted by email indicating the following reference "Consultant for Midterm Review for Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines" at the following address ONLY: procurement.bb@undp.org by 23:59 of 8th October, 2021.

Criteria for Evaluation of Proposal: Only those applications which are responsive and compliant will be evaluated. Offers will be evaluated according to the Combined Scoring method – where the educational background and experience on similar assignments will be weighted at 70% and the price proposal will weigh as 30% of the total scoring. The applicant receiving the Highest Combined Score that has also accepted UNDP's General Terms and Conditions will be awarded the contract.

ToR ANNEX A: List of Documents to be reviewed by the MTR Team

- 1. PIF
- 2. UNDP Initiation Plan
- 3. UNDP Project Document
- 4. UNDP Environmental and Social Screening results
- 5. Project Inception Report
- 6. All Project Implementation Reports (PIR's)
- 7. Quarterly progress reports and work plans of the various implementation task teams
- 8. Audit reports
- 9. Finalized GEF focal area Tracking Tools at CEO endorsement and midterm (Biodiversity)
- 10. Oversight mission reports
- 11. All monitoring reports prepared by the project
- 12. Financial and Administration guidelines used by Project Team

The following documents will also be available:

- 13. Project operational guidelines, manuals and systems
- 14. UNDP country/countries programme document(s)
- 15. Minutes of the Project Steering Committee Meetings and the Project Appraisal Committee Meeting
- 16. Project site location maps

ToR ANNEX B: Guidelines on Contents for the Midterm Review Report¹⁴

- i. Basic Report Information (for opening page or title page)
 - Title of UNDP supported GEF financed project
 - UNDP PIMS# and GEF project ID#
 - MTR time frame and date of MTR report
 - Region and countries included in the project
 - GEF Operational Focal Area/Strategic Program
 - Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and other project partners

¹⁴ The Report length should not exceed 40 pages in total (not including annexes).

- MTR team members
- Acknowledgements
- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. Acronyms and Abbreviations
- **1.** Executive Summary (3-5 pages)
 - Project Information Table
 - Project Description (brief)
 - Project Progress Summary (between 200-500 words)
 - MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table
 - Concise summary of conclusions
 - Recommendation Summary Table
- 2. Introduction (2-3 pages)
 - Purpose of the MTR and objectives
 - Scope & Methodology: principles of design and execution of the MTR, MTR approach and data collection methods, limitations to the MTR
 - Structure of the MTR report
- 3. Project Description and Background Context (3-5 pages)
 - Development context: environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors relevant to the project objective and scope
 - Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted
 - Project Description and Strategy: objective, outcomes and expected results, description of field sites (if any)
 - Project Implementation Arrangements: short description of the Project Board, key implementing partner arrangements, etc.
 - Project timing and milestones
 - Main stakeholders: summary list
- **4.** Findings (12-14 pages)
- 4.1 Project Strategy
 - Project Design
 - Results Framework/Logframe
- **4.2** Progress Towards Results
 - Progress towards outcomes analysis
 - Remaining barriers to achieving the project objective
- 4.3 Project Implementation and Adaptive Management
 - Management Arrangements
 - Work planning
 - Finance and co-finance
 - Project-level monitoring and evaluation systems
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Reporting
 - Communications
- 4.4 Sustainability
 - Financial risks to sustainability
 - Socio-economic to sustainability
 - Institutional framework and governance risks to sustainability
 - Environmental risks to sustainability
- 5. Conclusions and Recommendations (4-6 pages)

Conclusions

• Comprehensive and balanced statements (that are evidence-based and connected to the MTR's findings) which highlight the strengths, weaknesses and results of the project

Recommendations

- Corrective actions for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project
 - Actions to follow up or reinforce initial benefits from the project

• Proposals for future directions underlining main objectives

6. Annexes

- MTR ToR (excluding ToR annexes)
- MTR evaluative matrix (evaluation criteria with key questions, indicators, sources of data, and methodology)
- Example Questionnaire or Interview Guide used for data collection
- Ratings Scales
- MTR mission itinerary
- List of persons interviewed
- List of documents reviewed
- Co-financing table (if not previously included in the body of the report)
- Signed UNEG Code of Conduct form
- Signed MTR final report clearance form
- Annexed in a separate file: Audit trail from received comments on draft MTR report
- Annexed in a separate file: Relevant midterm tracking tools

ToR ANNEX C: Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix Template

ToR ANNEX C: Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix Template

Evaluative Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Project Strategy: To what exte	ent is the project strat	egy relevant to count	ry priorities, country ownership, and
the best route towards expect	ted results?		
(include evaluative	(i.e. relationships	(i.e. project	(i.e. document analysis, data analysis,
question(s))	established, level of	documents, national	interviews with project staff, interviews
	coherence between	policies or strategies,	with stakeholders, etc.)
	project design and	websites, project	
	implementation	staff, project	
	approach, specific	partners, data	
	activities conducted,	collected throughout	
	quality of risk	the MTR mission,	
	mitigation strategies,	etc.)	
	etc.)		
How appropriate/relevant was	Evidence of project	National Planning	Document analysis
the project strategy in	alignment with	documents	Interviews with project staff and
comparison with the priorities	national goals and		stakeholders o
of the country?	priorities		
Did the strategy proposed			
involve the key elements of		UNDP Project	
government concurrence and	Evidence of	documents	
ownership?	concurrence and		
	ownership of the		
	project by national		
	organizations		
How suitable was the strategy	Evidence of synergy	UNDP Project	Document analysis
to ensure achievement of	between	_	Interviews with project staff and
expected results?			stakeholders
,		framework/logframe	
		Project staff,	
		partners	
	1	p · · ·	1

	T	T	T
'	Extent it which the	Capacity	Document analysis
partners, including UNDP, well		assessments	Interviews with project staff and
assessed and appropriate to	assessments were	Project governance	stakeholders
the needs of the programme?	integrated into	framework	
	project design.		
Progress Towards Results: To achieved thus far?	what extent have the	expected outcomes a	and objectives of the project been
Have the outputs been	Level of project	Project documents •	Interviews
produced as envisioned?	•	Project staff •	Desk review
Have outputs contributed to	progress relative to	Project stakeholders	
the project objectives and	expected level at		
associated outcomes as	current stage of		
envisioned?	implementation •		
	Existence of logical		
	linkages between		
	project outputs and		
	outcomes/impacts		
·	Existence of logical	•	Interviews
likely to be achieved?	linkages between	Project staff •	Desk review
	project outcomes	Project stakeholders	
Are the outcomes likely to	and impacts		
contribute to the achievement			
of the project objective?			
		Project documents •	Interviews
to be achieved?	through the project's	_	Desk review
	Theory of Change	Project stakeholders	
' ' ' '	Extent to which	Annual Work Plans	Desk Review
comprehensively measuring	lessons learned from	_	
milestones and results and	reporting are	Quarterly Reports	
using this process to inform		Steering Committee	
planning and implementation?		Meeting Minuted	
-	-		n implemented efficiently, cost-
			To what extent are project-level
monitoring and evaluation sys implementation?	stems, reporting, and	project communication	ons supporting the project's
•	Project	Project Progress	Interviews
been efficient?	activities executed in		Desk review
		Interviews with	
	resources, timelines	project staff/project	
	and targets	M&E	
Has the management of	Efficient	Co-financing table	Interviews
project financing (including	management of	Project documents	Desk review
co-financing) been cost	project resources		
effective?			
Has the monitoring and	Adequate Monitoring	Project Progress	Interviews
Evaluation of the project been	system in place	reports	Desk review
sufficient to ensure the		Project results	
efficient achievement of		framework	
intended results in a suitable		Interviews with	
timeframe?		project staff/project	
		M&E	
Sustainability: To what extent	are there financial, in	stitutional, socio-eco	nomic, and/or environmental risks to
sustaining long-term project re	esults?		

To what extent are the project	Existence of socio	Project documents •	Interviews
results influenced	political risks to	Project staff •	Desk review
by sociopolitical factors?	project benefits	Project stakeholders	
To what extent are the project	 Existence of 	Project documents •	Interviews
results impacted by	institutional and	Project staff •	Desk review
institutional frameworks and	governance risks to	Project stakeholders	
governance?	project benefits		
Are there any environmental	Existence of	Project documents •	Interviews
risks expected to impede the	environmental risks	Project staff •	Desk review
long term results of the	to project benefits	Project stakeholders	
project?			

Evaluators/Consultants:

- 1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
- 2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
- 3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
- 4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
- 5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
- 6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
- 7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

MTR Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation	on in the UN System:	
Name of Consultant:		
Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant):		
I confirm that I have received and understood and w Evaluation.	rill abide by the United Nations Code of Conduc	ct for
Signed at	_ (Place) on	(Date)
Signature:		

_

¹⁵ www.undp.org/unegcodeofconduct

ToR ANNEX E: MTR Ratings

Ra	Ratings for Progress Towards Results: (one rating for each outcome and for the objective)			
6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve or exceed all its end-of-project targets, without major shortcomings. The progress towards the objective/outcome can be presented as "good practice".		
5	Satisfactory (S)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets, with only minor shortcomings.		
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets but with significant shortcomings.		
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve its end-of-project targets with major shortcomings.		
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	The objective/outcome is expected not to achieve most of its end-of-project targets.		
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome has failed to achieve its midterm targets, and is not expected to achieve any of its end-of-project targets.		

Ra	tings for Project Impl	ementation & Adaptive Management: (one overall rating)
6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all seven components – management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and communications – is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management. The project can be presented as "good practice".
5	Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management except for only few that are subject to remedial action.
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management, with some components requiring remedial action.
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive, with most components requiring remedial action.
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.

Ra	Ratings for Sustainability: (one overall rating)			
4	Likely (L)	Negligible risks to sustainability, with key outcomes on track to be achieved by the project's closure and expected to continue into the foreseeable future		
3	Moderately Likely (ML)	Moderate risks, but expectations that at least some outcomes will be sustained due to the progress towards results on outcomes at the Midterm Review		
2	Moderately Unlikely (MU)	Significant risk that key outcomes will not carry on after project closure, although some outputs and activities should carry on		
1	Unlikely (U)	Severe risks that project outcomes as well as key outputs will not be sustained		

ToR ANNEX F: MTR Report Clearance Form (to be completed by the Commissioning Unit and UNDP-GEF RTA and included in the final document)

Midterm Review Report Reviewed and Cleared By:				
Commissioning Unit				
Name:				
Signature:	Date:			
UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor				
Name:				
Signature:	Date:			

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ToR ANNEX G: Audit Trail Template

Note: The following is a template for the MTR Team to show how the received comments on the draft MTR report have (or have not) been incorporated into the final MTR report. This audit trail should be included as an annex in the final MTR report.

To the comments received on (date) from the Midterm Review of (project name) (UNDP Project ID-PIMS #)

The following comments were provided in track changes to the draft Midterm Review report; they are referenced by institution ("Author" column) and not by the person's name, and track change comment number ("#" column):

Author	#	Para No./ comment location	Comment/Feedback on the draft MTR report	MTR team response and actions taken

Midterm Review Terms of Reference

Standard Template 2: Formatted information to be entered in <u>UNDP Jobs</u> website¹⁶

BASIC CONTRACT INFORMATION

Location: Home-based (with a mission to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Application Deadline: October 8, 2021 Category: Energy and Environment Type of Contract: Individual Contract Assignment Type: International Consultant

Languages Required: English Starting Date: 24th September 2021 Duration of Initial Contract: N/A

Expected Duration of Assignment: 4 months

BACKGROUND

A. Project Title

B. Project Description

This is the Terms of Reference for the UNDP-GEF Midterm Review (MTR) of the full-sized project titled Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (PIMS 5862) implemented through the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Transformation, Forestry, Fisheries, Industry and Labour, which is to be undertaken in February 2022. The project started on 15th February 2021, and is in its first year of implementation. In line with the UNDP-GEF Guidance on MTRs, this MTR process was initiated before the submission of the second Project Implementation Report (PIR). The MTR process must follow the guidance outlined in the document *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* (see Annex).

The main objective of the project Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach with financing from the Global Environment Facility with support from UNDP is to enhance biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services conservation through an expanded and strengthened PA system and with SLM measures integrated in a ridge to reef approach. The Project objective has been designed by using a multi-focal strategy that includes the development of a national enabling environment (i.e. policy/legal framework, availability and access to information, capacities, technologies, and finance mechanisms) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in four interrelated outcomes: 1) Strengthened institutional framework for protected areas, biodiversity conservation and SLM/CSA; 2) Effective management of new and existing Pas; 3) Integrated watershed management measures in R2R setting incorporating sustainable livelihood opportunities and; 4) Knowledge management for SLM, CSA and biodiversity conservation. The GEF investment will address the drivers of biodiversity loss (habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation due primarily to unsustainable land use practices and human encroachment, threats that are further compounded by the impacts of climate change and IAS) that will reduce biodiversity loss and land degradation both within PAs and within the mixed-use

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¹⁶ https://jobs.undp.org/

landscape. The project will deliver global environmental benefits using a participatory approach and ensuring the equal distribution of benefits among men and women, with 346 benefiting from the Project, and resulting in the consolidation and strengthened protection of a 13,214 ha terrestrial PA covering the entire upper watersheds of St Vincent and 7 KBAs, providing landscape connectivity to a 2183 ha marine park through a ridge to reef approach and improving protection of at minimum 63 ha of the sole remaining habitat of a critically endangered (CR) single island endemic.

C. MTR Purpose

The MTR will assess progress towards the achievement of the project objectives and outcomes as specified in the Project Document and assess early signs of project success or failure with the goal of identifying the necessary changes to be made in order to set the project on-track to achieve its intended results. The MTR will also review the project's strategy and its risks to sustainability.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

D. MTR Approach and Methodology

The MTR report must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful.

The MTR team will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e. PIF, UNDP Initiation Plan, UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)), the Project Document, project reports including Annual Project Review/PIRs, project budget revisions, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the team considers useful for this evidence-based review. The MTR team will review the baseline GEF focal area Core Indicators/Tracking Tools submitted to the GEF at CEO endorsement, and the midterm GEF focal area Core Indicators/Tracking Tools that must be completed before the MTR field mission begins.

The MTR team is expected to follow a collaborative and participatory approach¹⁷ ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts (the GEF Operational Focal Point), the UNDP Country Office(s), the Nature, Climate and Energy (NCE) Regional Technical Advisor, direct beneficiaries, and other key stakeholders.

Engagement of stakeholders is vital to a successful MTR.¹⁸ Stakeholder involvement should include interviews with stakeholders who have project responsibilities, including but not limited to governmental ministry Officials, executing agencies, senior officials, Non-Governmental Organizations and task team/component leaders, key experts and consultants in the subject area, Project Board, project stakeholders, academia, local government and CSOs, etc. Additionally, the MTR team is expected to conduct field missions to Chatham Bay Union Island, Forestry Headquarters, Cumberland Field Station and the Central Water and Sewage Authority(CWSA).

The specific design and methodology for the MTR should emerge from consultations between the MTR team and the above-mentioned parties regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the MTR purpose and objectives and answering the evaluation questions, given limitations of budget, time and data. The MTR team must, however, use gender-responsive methodologies and tools and ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as other cross-cutting issues and SDGs are incorporated into the MTR report.

¹⁷ For ideas on innovative and participatory Monitoring and Evaluation strategies and techniques, see <u>UNDP Discussion Paper:</u> <u>Innovations in Monitoring & Evaluating Results</u>, 05 Nov 2013.

¹⁸ For more stakeholder engagement in the M&E process, see the <u>UNDP Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results</u>, Chapter 3, pg. 93.

The final methodological approach including interview schedule, field visits and data to be used in the MTR should be clearly outlined in the Inception Report and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders and the MTR team.

The final MTR report must describe the full MTR approach taken and the rationale for the approach making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths and weaknesses about the methods and approach of the review.

E. Detailed Scope of the MTR

The MTR team will assess the following four categories of project progress. See the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* for extended descriptions.

1. Project Strategy

Project Design:

- Review the problem addressed by the project and the underlying assumptions. Review the effect of any incorrect assumptions or changes to the context to achieving the project results as outlined in the Project Document.
- Review the relevance of the project strategy and assess whether it provides the most effective route towards expected/intended results. Were lessons from other relevant projects properly incorporated into the project design?
- Review how the project addresses country priorities. Review country ownership. Was the project
 concept in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the country (or of
 participating countries in the case of multi-country projects)?
- Review decision-making processes: were perspectives of those who would be affected by project
 decisions, those who could affect the outcomes, and those who could contribute information or
 other resources to the process, taken into account during project design processes?
- Review the extent to which relevant gender issues were raised in the project design. See Annex 9 of
 Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects for further
 guidelines.
 - Were relevant gender issues (e.g. the impact of the project on gender equality in the programme country, involvement of women's groups, engaging women in project activities) raised in the Project Document?

If there are major areas of concern, recommend areas

Results Framework/Logframe:

- Undertake a critical analysis of the project's logframe indicators and targets, assess how "SMART" the midterm and end-of-project targets are (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timebound), and suggest specific amendments/revisions to the targets and indicators as necessary.
- Are the project's objectives and outcomes or components clear, practical, and feasible within its time frame?
- Examine if progress so far has led to, or could in the future catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women's empowerment, improved governance etc...) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis.
- Ensure broader development and gender aspects of the project are being monitored effectively. Develop and recommend SMART 'development' indicators, including sex-disaggregated indicators and indicators that capture development benefits.

2. Progress Towards Results

Review the logframe indicators against progress made towards the end-of-project targets; populate
the Progress Towards Results Matrix, as described in the Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of

- UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects; colour code progress in a "traffic light system" based on the level of progress achieved; assign a rating on progress for the project objective and each outcome; make recommendations from the areas marked as "not on target to be achieved" (red).
- Compare and analyse the GEF Tracking Tool at the Baseline with the one completed right before the Midterm Review.
- Identify remaining barriers to achieving the project objective in the remainder of the project
- By reviewing the aspects of the project that have already been successful, identify ways in which the project can further expand these benefits.

3. Project Implementation and Adaptive Management

Management Arrangements

- Review overall effectiveness of project management as outlined in the Project Document. Have changes been made and are they effective? Are responsibilities and reporting lines clear? Is decision-making transparent and undertaken in a timely manner? Recommend areas for improvement.
- Review the quality of execution of the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner(s) and recommend areas for improvement.
- Review the quality of support provided by the GEF Partner Agency (UNDP) and recommend areas for improvement.
- Do the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and/or UNDP and other partners have the capacity to deliver benefits to or involve women? If yes, how?
- What is the gender balance of project staff? What steps have been taken to ensure gender balance in project staff?
- What is the gender balance of the Project Board? What steps have been taken to ensure gender balance in the Project Board?

Work Planning

- Review any delays in project start-up and implementation, identify the causes and examine if they have been resolved.
- Are work-planning processes results-based? If not, suggest ways to re-orientate work planning to focus on results?
- Examine the use of the project's results framework/ logframe as a management tool and review any changes made to it since project start.

Finance and co-finance

- Consider the financial management of the project, with specific reference to the cost-effectiveness of interventions.
- Review the changes to fund allocations as a result of budget revisions and assess the appropriateness and relevance of such revisions.
- Does the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds?
- Informed by the co-financing monitoring table to be filled out by the Commissioning Unit and project team, provide commentary on co-financing: is co-financing being used strategically to help the objectives of the project? Is the Project Team meeting with all co-financing partners regularly in order to align financing priorities and annual work plans?

Sources of	Name of Co-	Type of Co-	Co-financing	Actual	Actual % of
Co-	financer	financing	amount	Amount	Expected
financing			confirmed at	Contributed at	Amount
			CEO	stage of	
			Endorsement	Midterm	
			(US\$)	Review (US\$)	
		TOTAL			

• Include the separate GEF Co-Financing template (filled out by the Commissioning Unit and project team) which categorizes co-financing amounts by source as 'investment mobilized' or 'recurrent expenditures'. (This template will be annexed as a separate file.

Project-level monitoring and evaluation systems

- Review the monitoring tools currently being used: Do they provide the necessary information? Do they involve key partners? Are they aligned or mainstreamed with national systems? Do they use existing information? Are they efficient? Are they cost-effective? Are additional tools required? How could they be made more participatory and inclusive?
- Examine the financial management of the project monitoring and evaluation budget. Are sufficient resources being allocated to monitoring and evaluation? Are these resources being allocated effectively?
- Review the extent to which relevant gender issues were incorporated in monitoring systems. See Annex 9 of Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects for further guidelines.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Project management: Has the project developed and leveraged the necessary and appropriate partnerships with direct and tangential stakeholders?
- Participation and country-driven processes: Do local and national government stakeholders support the objectives of the project? Do they continue to have an active role in project decisionmaking that supports efficient and effective project implementation?
- Participation and public awareness: To what extent has stakeholder involvement and public awareness contributed to the progress towards achievement of project objectives?
- How does the project engage women and girls? Is the project likely to have the same positive and/or negative effects on women and men, girls and boys? Identify, if possible, legal, cultural, or religious constraints on women's participation in the project. What can the project do to enhance its gender benefits?

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

- Validate the risks identified in the project's most current SESP, and those risks' ratings; are any revisions needed?
- Summarize and assess the revisions made since CEO Endorsement/Approval (if any) to:
 - o The project's overall safeguards risk categorization.
 - o The identified types of risks¹⁹ (in the SESP).

¹⁹ Risks are to be labeled with both the UNDP SES Principles and Standards, and the GEF's "types of risks and potential impacts": Climate Change and Disaster; Disadvantaged or Vulnerable Individuals or Groups; Disability Inclusion; Adverse Gender-Related impact, including Gender-based Violence and Sexual Exploitation; Biodiversity Conservation and the Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources; Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement; Indigenous Peoples; Cultural Heritage; Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention; Labor and Working Conditions; Community Health, Safety and Security.

- o The individual risk ratings (in the SESP).
- Describe and assess progress made in the implementation of the project's social and environmental
 management measures as outlined in the SESP submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval (and
 prepared during implementation, if any), including any revisions to those measures. Such
 management measures might include Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or
 other management plans, though can also include aspects of a project's design; refer to Question 6
 in the SESP template for a summary of the identified management measures.

A given project should be assessed against the version of UNDP's safeguards policy that was in effect at the time of the project's approval.

Reporting

- Assess how adaptive management changes have been reported by the project management and shared with the Project oard.
- Assess how well the Project Team and partners undertake and fulfil GEF reporting requirements (i.e. how have they addressed poorly-rated PIRs, if applicable?)
- Assess how lessons derived from the adaptive management process have been documented, shared with key partners and internalized by partners.

Communications & Knowledge Management

- Review internal project communication with stakeholders: Is communication regular and effective? Are there key stakeholders left out of communication? Are there feedback mechanisms when communication is received? Does this communication with stakeholders contribute to their awareness of project outcomes and activities and investment in the sustainability of project results?
- Review external project communication: Are proper means of communication established or being
 established to express the project progress and intended impact to the public (is there a web
 presence, for example? Or did the project implement appropriate outreach and public awareness
 campaigns?)
- For reporting purposes, write one half-page paragraph that summarizes the project's progress towards results in terms of contribution to sustainable development benefits, as well as global environmental benefits.
- List knowledge activities/products developed (based on knowledge management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval).

4. Sustainability

- Validate whether the risks identified in the Project Document, Annual Project Review/PIRs and the ATLAS Risk Register are the most important and whether the risk ratings applied are appropriate and up to date. If not, explain why.
- In addition, assess the following risks to sustainability:

Financial risks to sustainability:

What is the likelihood of financial and economic resources not being available once the GEF
assistance ends (consider potential resources can be from multiple sources, such as the public and
private sectors, income generating activities, and other funding that will be adequate financial
resources for sustaining project's outcomes)?

Socio-economic risks to sustainability:

• Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outcomes? What is the risk that the level of stakeholder ownership (including ownership by governments and other key stakeholders) will be insufficient to allow for the project outcomes/benefits to be sustained? Do the various key stakeholders see that it is in their interest that the project benefits continue to

flow? Is there sufficient public / stakeholder awareness in support of the long-term objectives of the project? Are lessons learned being documented by the Project Team on a continual basis and shared/ transferred to appropriate parties who could learn from the project and potentially replicate and/or scale it in the future?

Institutional Framework and Governance risks to sustainability:

Do the legal frameworks, policies, governance structures and processes pose risks that may
jeopardize sustenance of project benefits? While assessing this parameter, also consider if the
required systems/ mechanisms for accountability, transparency, and technical knowledge transfer
are in place.

Environmental risks to sustainability:

Are there any environmental risks that may jeopardize sustenance of project outcomes?

Conclusions & Recommendations

The MTR consultant/team will include a section in the MTR report for evidence-based **conclusions**, in light of the findings.

Additionally, the MTR consultant/team is expected to make **recommendations** to the Project Team. Recommendations should be succinct suggestions for critical intervention that are specific, measurable, achievable, and relevant. A recommendation table should be put in the report's executive summary. The MTR consultant/team should make no more than 15 recommendations total.

Ratings

The MTR team will include its ratings of the project's results and brief descriptions of the associated achievements in a MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table in the Executive Summary of the MTR report. See the TOR Annexes for the Rating Table and ratings scales.

F. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

The MTR team shall prepare and submit:

- MTR Inception Report: MTR team clarifies objectives and methods of the Midterm Review no later than 2 weeks before the MTR mission. To be sent to the Commissioning Unit and project management. Completion date: (November 10, 2021)
- <u>Presentation</u>: MTR team presents initial findings to project management and the Commissioning Unit at the end of the MTR mission. Completion date: (November 29, 2021)
- <u>Draft MTR Report</u>: MTR team submits the draft full report with annexes within 3 weeks of the MTR mission. Completion date: (December 8, 2021)
- <u>Final Report</u>*: MTR team submits the revised report with annexed and completed Audit Trail detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final MTR report. To be sent to the Commissioning Unit within 1 week of receiving UNDP comments on draft. Completion date: (December 17, 2021)

*The final MTR report must be in English. If applicable, the Commissioning Unit may choose to arrange for a translation of the report into a language more widely shared by national stakeholders.

G. Institutional Arrangements

The principal responsibility for managing this MTR resides with the Commissioning Unit. The Commissioning Unit for this project's MTR is the UNDP Barbados and the OECS Sub-Regional Office.

The Commissioning Unit will contract the consultants and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within St. Vincent and the Grenadines for the MTR team. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the MTR team to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.

H. Duration of the Work

The total duration of the MTR will be approximately 30 days over a period of 10 weeks starting from the date of contract signature, and shall not exceed five months from when the consultant(s) are hired. The tentative MTR timeframe is as follows:

- (October 8, 2021): Applications received, sourced from GPN Roster
- (October 19, 2021): Selection of MTR Team
- (October 26, 2021): Prep the MTR Team (handover of project documents)
- (November 1, 2021) 4 days (recommended 2-4): Document review and preparing MTR Inception Report
- (November 10, 2021) 8 days: Finalization and Validation of MTR Inception Report- latest start of MTR mission
- (November 24, 2021) 10 days (r: 7-15): MTR mission: stakeholder meetings, interviews, field visits
- (November 29, 2021): Mission wrap-up meeting & presentation of initial findings- earliest end of MTR mission
- (December 8, 2021) 7 days (r. 5-10): Preparing draft report
- (December 17, 2021) 7 days (r: 1-2): Incorporating audit trail on draft report/Finalization of MTR report (note: accommodate time delay in dates for circulation and review of the draft report)
- (December 20, 2021): Preparation & Issue of Management Response
- (TBD): (optional) Concluding Stakeholder Workshop (not mandatory for MTR team)
- (December 22, 2021): Expected date of full MTR completion

The date start of contract is 26th October 2021.

I. Duty Station

Travel:

- International travel will be required to St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the MTR mission;
- The BSAFE training course <u>must</u> be successfully completed <u>prior</u> to commencement of travel; Herewith is the link to access this training: https://training.dss.un.org/courses/login/index.php.
 These training modules at this secure internet site is accessible to Consultants, which allows for registration with private email.
- Individual Consultants are responsible for ensuring they have vaccinations/inoculations when travelling to certain countries, as designated by the UN Medical Director.
- Consultants are required to comply with the UN security directives set forth under https://dss.un.org/dssweb/

• All related travel expenses will be covered and will be reimbursed as per UNDP rules and regulations upon submission of an F-10 claim form and supporting documents.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

J. Qualifications of the Successful Applicants

A team of two independent evaluators will conduct the MTR – one team leader (with experience and exposure to projects and evaluations in other regions) and one team expert, usually from the country of the project. The team leader will conduct interviews with local counterparts alongside the local consultant, be responsible for the overall design and writing of key reports and supporting documents (Inception and MTR report), analyze and interpret data collected, present findings (alongside the local consultant), deduce key lessons, insights and recommendations and ensure these are reflected in the relevant reports. The team expert will organize and conduct interviews/meetings with local counterparts, work with the Project Team in developing the MTR itinerary, conduct site visits (if necessary) to verify the achievement of deliverables/completion of key activities, review all draft documents and provide detailed inputs and comments.

The consultants cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation, and/or implementation (including the writing of the Project Document) and should not have a conflict of interest with project's related activities.

The selection of consultants will be aimed at maximizing the overall "team" qualities in the following areas:

Education

- A Master's degree in in natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, climate change, water resources management, ecosystems/PA/ management, environmental science, public policy, rural development, or related field
- Certification in project management is an asset.

Experience

- Recent experience with result-based management evaluation methodologies;
- Experience applying SMART targets and reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios;
- Competence in adaptive management, as applied to biodiversity conservation.
- Experience in evaluating projects;
- Experience working in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Experience in relevant technical areas for at least 10 years;
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and biodiversity conservation; experience in gender sensitive evaluation and analysis;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Demonstrable analytical skills;
- Project evaluation/review experiences within United Nations system will be considered an asset.

Language

Fluency in written and spoken English.

The selection of consultants will be aimed at maximizing the overall "team" qualities in the following areas:

	8	
Criteria	Maximum score for:	
	Team leader	Team expert

Recent experience with result-based management evaluation methodologies	15	10
Experience applying SMART indicators and	15	10
reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios		
Competence in adaptive management, as applied to	10	15
biodiversity		
Experience working with the GEF or GEF	20	10
evaluations		
Experience working in the Caribbean	5	15
Experience with national, multi-sectoral stakeholder	15	5
engagement		
Demonstrated understanding of issues related to	5	15
gender, and biodiversity; experience in gender		
sensitive evaluation and analysis		
Project evaluation/review experience within UN	10	10
system		
A Master's degree in natural resources management,	5	10
environmental science, biodiversity, business, public		
policy, rural development, or other closely related		
field		
TOTAL	100	100

Consultant Independence:

The consultants cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation, and/or implementation (including the writing of the Project Document) and should not have a conflict of interest with project's related activities.

K. Ethics

The MTR team will be held to the highest ethical standards and is required to sign a code of conduct upon acceptance of the assignment. This MTR will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. The MTR team must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The MTR team must also ensure security of collected information before and after the MTR and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information, knowledge and data gathered in the MTR process must also be solely used for the MTR and not for other uses without the express authorization of UNDP and partners.

L. Schedule of Payments

- 20% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final MTR Inception Report and approval by the Commissioning Unit
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the draft MTR report to the Commissioning Unit
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final MTR report and approval by the Commissioning
 Unit and RTA (via signatures on the MTR Report Clearance Form) and delivery of completed MTR
 Audit Trail

Criteria for issuing the final payment of 40%

- The final MTR report includes all requirements outlined in the MTR TOR and is in accordance with the MTR guidance.
- The final MTR report is clearly written, logically organized, and is specific for this project (i.e. text has not been cut & pasted from other MTR reports).
- The Audit Trail includes responses to and justification for each comment listed.

APPLICATION PROCESS

M. Recommended Presentation of Offer

- e) Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability using the <u>template</u>²⁰ provided by UNDP;
- f) **CV** and a **Personal History Form** (P11 form²¹);
- g) **Brief description of approach to work/technical proposal** of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a proposed methodology on how they will approach and complete the assignment; (max 1 page)
- h) Financial Proposal that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price and all other travel related costs (such as flight ticket, per diem, etc), supported by a breakdown of costs, as per template attached to the Letter of Confirmation of Interest template. If an applicant is employed by an organization/company/institution, and he/she expects his/her employer to charge a management fee in the process of releasing him/her to UNDP under Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA), the applicant must indicate at this point, and ensure that all such costs are duly incorporated in the financial proposal submitted to UNDP.

All application materials should be submitted by email indicating the following reference "Consultant for Midterm Review for Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines" at the following address ONLY: procurement.bb@undp.org by 23:59 of 8th October 2021.

N. Criteria for Selection of the Best Offer

Only those applications which are responsive and compliant will be evaluated. Offers will be evaluated according to the Combined Scoring method – where the educational background and experience on similar assignments will be weighted at 70% and the price proposal will weigh as 30% of the total scoring. The applicant receiving the Highest Combined Score that has also accepted UNDP's General Terms and Conditions will be awarded the contract.

O. Annexes to the MTR ToR

Annexes include: (reference ToR Annexes in Annex 3 of Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects)

- List of documents to be reviewed by the MTR Team
- Guidelines on Contents for the Midterm Review Report
- Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix Template

 $\frac{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support\%20documents\%20on\%20IC\%20Guidelines/Template\%20for\%20Confirmation\%20of\%20Interest\%20and\%20Submission\%20of\%20Financial\%20Proposal.docx}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support\%20documents\%20on\%20ICM20Guidelines/Template%20for%20Confirmation\%20of%20Interest\%20and\%20Submission%20of%20Financial\%20Proposal.docx}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents\%20on%20ICM20Guidelines/Template%20for%20Confirmation%20of%20Interest%20and%20Submission%20of%20Financial%20Proposal.docx}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Support%20documents}}{\text{https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bom/pso/Sup$

²⁰

²¹ http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/Careers/P11 Personal history form.doc

- UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Midterm Review Consultants
- MTR Required Ratings Table and Ratings Scales
- MTR Report Clearance Form
- Audit Trail Template
- Progress Towards Results Matrix)
- GEF Co-Financing Template (in Word)

Annexes to Midterm Review Terms of Reference

For Standard Template 2

- ToR ANNEX A: List of Documents to be reviewed by the MTR Team
- ToR ANNEX B: Guidelines on Contents for the Midterm Review Report²²
- ToR ANNEX C: Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix Template
- ToR ANNEX D: UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Midterm Review Consultants²³
- ToR ANNEX E: MTR Ratings and Achievements Summary Table and Rating Scales
- ToR ANNEX F: MTR Report Clearance Form
- ToR ANNEX G: Audit Trail Template
- ToR ANNEX H: Progress Towards Results Matrix
- ToR ANNEX I: GEF Co-Financing Template (provided as a separate file)

ToR ANNEX A: List of Documents to be reviewed by the MTR Team

(The Commissioning Unit is responsible for compiling these documents prior to the recruitment of the MTR team so that they are available to the team immediately after contract signature.)

- 17. PIF
- 18. UNDP Initiation Plan
- 19. UNDP Project Document
- 20. UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)
- 21. Project Inception Report
- 22. All Project Implementation Reports (PIR's)
- 23. Quarterly progress reports and work plans of the various implementation task teams
- 24. Audit reports
- 25. Finalized GEF focal area Tracking Tools/Core Indicators at CEO endorsement and midterm
- 26. Oversight mission reports
- 27. All monitoring reports prepared by the project
- 28. Financial and Administration guidelines used by Project Team

The following documents will also be available:

- 29. Project operational guidelines, manuals and systems
- 30. UNDP country/countries programme document(s)
- 31. Minutes of the Project's Board Meetings and other meetings (i.e. Project Appraisal Committee meetings)
- 32. Project site location maps
- 33. Any additional documents, as relevant.

²² The Report length should not exceed 40 pages in total (not including annexes).

²³ http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/100

ToR ANNEX B: Guidelines on Contents for the Midterm Review Report²⁴

- i. Basic Report Information (for opening page or title page)
 - Title of UNDP supported GEF financed project
 - UNDP PIMS# and GEF project ID#
 - MTR time frame and date of MTR report
 - Region and countries included in the project
 - GEF Operational Focal Area/Strategic Program
 - Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and other project partners
 - MTR team members
 - Acknowledgements
- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. Acronyms and Abbreviations
- **1.** Executive Summary (3-5 pages)
 - Project Information Table
 - Project Description (brief)
 - Project Progress Summary (between 200-500 words)
 - MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table
 - Concise summary of conclusions
 - Recommendation Summary Table
- 2. Introduction (2-3 pages)
 - Purpose of the MTR and objectives
 - Scope & Methodology: principles of design and execution of the MTR, MTR approach and data collection methods, limitations to the MTR
 - Structure of the MTR report
- 3. Project Description and Background Context (3-5 pages)
 - Development context: environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors relevant to the project objective and scope
 - Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted
 - Project Description and Strategy: objective, outcomes and expected results, description of field sites (if any)
 - Project Implementation Arrangements: short description of the Project Board, key implementing partner arrangements, etc.
 - Project timing and milestones
 - Main stakeholders: summary list
- **4.** Findings (12-14 pages)
 - **4.1** Project Strategy
 - Project Design
 - Results Framework/Logframe
 - **4.2** Progress Towards Results
 - Progress towards outcomes analysis
 - Remaining barriers to achieving the project objective

²⁴ The Report length should not exceed 40 pages in total (not including annexes).

- **4.3** Project Implementation and Adaptive Management
 - Management Arrangements
 - Work planning
 - Finance and co-finance
 - Project-level monitoring and evaluation systems
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)
 - Reporting
 - Communications & Knowledge Management

4.4 Sustainability

- Financial risks to sustainability
- Socio-economic to sustainability
- Institutional framework and governance risks to sustainability
- Environmental risks to sustainability
- 5. Conclusions and Recommendations (4-6 pages)

5.1 Conclusions

 Comprehensive and balanced statements (that are evidence-based and connected to the MTR's findings) which highlight the strengths, weaknesses and results of the project

5.2 Recommendations

- Corrective actions for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project
- Actions to follow up or reinforce initial benefits from the project
- Proposals for future directions underlining main objectives

6. Annexes

- MTR ToR (excluding ToR annexes)
- MTR evaluative matrix (evaluation criteria with key questions, indicators, sources of data, and methodology)
- Example Questionnaire or Interview Guide used for data collection
- Ratings Scales
- MTR mission itinerary
- List of persons interviewed
- List of documents reviewed
- Co-financing table (if not previously included in the body of the report)
- Signed UNEG Code of Conduct form
- Signed MTR final report clearance form
- Annexed in a separate file: Audit trail from received comments on draft MTR report
- Annexed in a separate file: Relevant midterm tracking tools or Core Indicators
- Annexed in a separate file: GEF Co-financing template (categorizing co-financing amounts by source as 'investment mobilized' or 'recurrent expenditure')

ToR ANNEX C: Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix Template

This Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix must be fully completed/amended by the consultant and included in the MTR inception report and as an Annex to the MTR report.

ToR ANNEX C: Midterm Review Evaluative Matrix Template

Evaluative Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Project Strategy: To what	extent is the project stra	tegy relevant to count	ry priorities, country ownership, and
the best route towards ex	spected results?		
(include evaluative	(i.e. relationships	(i.e. project	(i.e. document analysis, data analysis,
question(s))	established, level of	documents, national	interviews with project staff, interviews
	coherence between	policies or strategies,	with stakeholders, etc.)
	project design and	websites, project	
	implementation	staff, project	
	approach, specific	partners, data	

	1	T	
	activities conducted,	collected throughout	
	quality of risk	the MTR mission,	
	mitigation strategies,	etc.)	
	etc.)		
How appropriate/relevant was	Evidence of project	National Planning	Document analysis
the project strategy in	alignment with	documents	Interviews with project staff and
comparison with the priorities	national goals and		stakeholders o
of the country?	priorities		
Did the strategy proposed			
involve the key elements of		UNDP Project	
government concurrence and	Evidence of	documents	
ownership?	concurrence and		
	ownership of the		
	project by national		
	organizations		
How suitable was the strategy	Evidence of synergy	UNDP Project	Document analysis
to ensure achievement of	between	document	Interviews with project staff and
expected results?	project strategy and	Project results	stakeholders
expected results.	SMART indicators	framework/logframe	Stakenorders
	Sivil art intaleators	Project staff,	
		partners	
Were the capacities of key	Extent it which the	Capacity	Document analysis
partners, including UNDP, well			Interviews with project staff and
assessed and appropriate to	assessments were		stakeholders
the needs of the programme?		framework	stakenoiders
the needs of the programme?	project design.	Iraniework	
Progress Towards Posults: To	-	expected outcomes	and objectives of the project been
achieved thus far?	what extent have the	expected outcomes a	nd objectives of the project been
	lovel of project	Drainet daguments a	Interviews
Have the outputs been produced as envisioned?	Level of project implementation	Project documents • Project staff •	Desk review
I.	progress relative to	Project stakeholders	Desk review
Have outputs contributed to	-	Project stakenoluers	
the project objectives and associated outcomes as	expected level at		
	current stage of		
envisioned?	implementation •		
	Existence of logical		
	linkages between		
	project outputs and		
	outcomes/impacts		
Are the anticipated outcomes	Existence of logical	_	Interviews
likely to be achieved?	linkages between	Project staff •	Desk review
	project outcomes	Project stakeholders	
Are the outcomes likely to	and impacts		
contribute to the achievement			
of the project objective?			
Are impact level results likely	Level of progress	-	Interviews
to be achieved?	through the project's	_	Desk review
	Theory of Change	Project stakeholders	
Is the project proactively and	Extent to which	Annual Work Plans	Desk Review
comprehensively measuring	lessons learned from	_	
milestones and results and	reporting are	Quarterly Reports	
using this process to inform planning and implementation?	reflected in work	Steering Committee Meeting Minuted	

	dapt to any changing stems, reporting, and	conditions thus far?	n implemented efficiently, cost- To what extent are project-level ons supporting the project's
been efficient?	activities executed in alignment with resources, timelines and targets	Interviews with	Desk review
Has the management of project financing (including co-financing) been cost effective?	Efficient management of project resources	Co-financing table Project documents	Interviews Desk review
Has the monitoring and Evaluation of the project been sufficient to ensure the efficient achievement of intended results in a suitable timeframe?	Adequate Monitoring system in place	Project Progress reports Project results framework Interviews with project staff/project M&E	Interviews Desk review
Sustainability: To what extent sustaining long-term project r		nstitutional, socio-eco	nomic, and/or environmental risks to
To what extent are the project results influenced by sociopolitical factors?		Project documents • Project staff • Project stakeholders	Interviews Desk review
To what extent are the project results impacted by institutional frameworks and governance?	institutional and governance risks to project benefits	Project documents • Project staff • Project stakeholders	Interviews Desk review
Are there any environmental risks expected to impede the long term results of the project?		Project documents • Project staff • Project stakeholders	Interviews Desk review

ToR ANNEX D: UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Midterm Review Consultants²⁵

Evaluators/Consultants:

- 8. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
- 9. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
- 10. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
- 11. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
- 12. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
- 13. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
- 14. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.
- 15. Must ensure that independence of judgement is maintained and that evaluation findings and recommendations are independently presented.
- 16. Must confirm that they have not been involved in designing, executing or advising on the project being evaluated.

²⁵ http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/100

ToR ANNEX E: MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table + Rating Scales

MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Table for (Project Title)

Measure	MTR Rating	Achievement Description
Project Strategy	N/A	
Progress Towards	Objective Achievement	
Results	Rating: (rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 1	
	Achievement Rating:	
	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 2	
	Achievement Rating:	
	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 3	
	Achievement Rating:	
	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Etc.	
Project	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
Implementation &		
Adaptive		
Management		
Sustainability	(rate 4 pt. scale)	

Ra	Ratings for Progress Towards Results: (one rating for each outcome and for the objective)			
6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve or exceed all its end-of-project targets, without major shortcomings. The progress towards the objective/outcome can be presented as "good practice".		
5	Satisfactory (S)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets, with only minor shortcomings.		
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets but with significant shortcomings.		
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve its end-of-project targets with major shortcomings.		
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	The objective/outcome is expected not to achieve most of its end-of-project targets.		
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome has failed to achieve its midterm targets, and is not expected to achieve any of its end-of-project targets.		

Ra	Ratings for Project Implementation & Adaptive Management: (one overall rating)			
6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all seven components – management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and communications – is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management. The project can be presented as "good practice".		
5	Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management except for only few that are subject to remedial action.		
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management, with some components requiring remedial action.		
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive, with most components requiring remedial action.		
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.		
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.		

Ra	Ratings for Sustainability: (one overall rating)			
4	Likely (L)	Negligible risks to sustainability, with key outcomes on track to be achieved by the project's closure and expected to continue into the foreseeable future		

3	Moderately Likely (ML)	Moderate risks, but expectations that at least some outcomes will be sustained due to the progress towards results on outcomes at the Midterm Review
2	Moderately Unlikely (MU)	Significant risk that key outcomes will not carry on after project closure, although some outputs and activities should carry on
1	Unlikely (U)	Severe risks that project outcomes as well as key outputs will not be sustained

ToR ANNEX F: MTR Report Clearance Form

(to be completed and signed by the Commissioning Unit and RTA and included in the final document)

Midterm Review Report Reviewed and Cleared By:				
Commissioning Unit (M&E Focal Point)				
Name:				
Signature:	Date:			
Regional Technical Advisor (Nature, Climate and Energy)				
Name:				
Signature:	Date:			

ToR ANNEX G: Audit Trail Template

Note: The following is a template for the MTR Team to show how the received comments on the draft MTR report have (or have not) been incorporated into the final MTR report. This audit trail should be included as an annex in the final MTR report.

To the comments received on (date) from the Midterm Review of (project name) (UNDP Project ID-PIMS #)

The following comments were provided in track changes to the draft Midterm Review report; they are referenced by institution ("Author" column) and not by the person's name, and track change comment number ("#" column):

Author	#	Para No./ comment location	Comment/Feedback on the draft MTR report	MTR team response and actions taken
		_		
				_

ToR ANNEX H: Progress Towards Results Matrix

Table. Progress Towards Results Matrix (Achievement of outcomes against End-of-project Targets)

Project Strategy	Indicator ²⁶	Baseline Level ²⁷	Level in 1st PIR (self- reporte d)	Midterm Target ²⁸	End-of-project Target	Midt erm Level & Asse ssme nt ²⁹	Achie vemen t Ratin g ³⁰	Justific ation for Rating
Project Objective: To enhance biodiversit y conservati on and ecosystem services conservati on through an expanded and strengthen ed PA system and with SLM measures integrated in a ridge to reef approach.	Mandatory Indicator 1: Number of new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national and/or sub- national level, disaggregated by partnership type.	0		4 Private sector: 1 NGO/CBO: 2 Donor: 1	9 Private sector: 3 NGO/CBO: 4 Donor: 2			

 $^{^{26}}$ Populate with data from the Logframe and scorecards 27 Populate with data from the Project Document

²⁸ If available

²⁹ Colour code this column only

³⁰ Use the 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale: HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU

	Mandatory indicator 2: # of direct project beneficiaries (men and women farmers/agricultural labourers, women and men along value chains) benefiting from livelihoods created through sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystem services, in the project prioritized landscapes, disaggregated by sex. (GEF Core Indicator 11)	0	a) Women: 48 (at least 30% of total beneficiaries) b) Men: 112 c) Additional females benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % d) Additional males benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % Note: Target will be confirmed during Year 1 of Project implementation	a) Women: 254 (at least 30% of total beneficiaries) b) Men: 592 c) Additional females benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % d) Additional males benefiting from new sustainable livelihoods created: 50 % Note: Target will be confirmed during Year 1 of Project implementation and monitored throughout project implementation	
	Indicator 3: Number of the following globally threatened endemic species whose populations have remained stable or increased by EOP: Amazona guildingii Chironius vincenti Pristimantis shrevei Catharopeza bishopi Gonatodes daudini	0	0	5 Amazona guildingii, Chironius vincenti, Pristimantis shrevei, Catharopeza bishopi, Gonatodes daudini.	
Componen t1: Strengthene d institutional framework for Protected Areas, Ecosystem	Indicator 4 # of targeted departments with effective use of centralized database with information for informed decision-making, as indicated by reporting of routine use (of agency outcome indicators) in annual work programme by the agencies	O Forestry Department Fisheries Department National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority Physical Planning	O Forestry Department Fisheries Department National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority Physical Planning	Forestry Department Fisheries Department National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority Physical Planning	

Conservatio	Indicator	0	0	c		
	Indicator 5	O Farrant Daling	O	6		
n and	Number of policy, legislative,	Forest Policy	Forest Policy	Forest Policy		
Sustainable	regulatory and planning	PA Policy	PA Policy (revised)	PA Policy		
Land Use in	instruments	(revised)	PA System Plan	(revised)		
St Vincent	developed/revised (with	PA System	(revised)	PA System Plan		
and the	support for submission to	Plan (revised)	PA Mgt Plan	(revised)		
Grenadines	Cabinet) that integrate	PA Mgt Plan	Integrated Watershed	PA Mgt Plan		
	Sustainable Land	Integrated	Mgt Plan	Integrated		
Outcome	Management (SLM), CSA,	Watershed	National Land Policy	Watershed Mgt		
1.1	gender responsiveness and/or	Mgt Plan		Plan		
Enhanced	biodiversity conservation.	National Land		National Land		
multi-		Policy		Policy		
		Note: A				
department		legislative				
al access to		review will				
centralized		take place				
database		during Year 1				
system,		to decide				
incorporatin		what policy				
g		legislation,				
biodiversity		regulations				
(BD),		and/or				
ecosystem		guidelines will				
services,		be				
land use /		updated/revis				
1		ed. The above				
cover,		mentioned				
protected		have been				
areas,		identified by				
climate and		the key				
soil data, to		government				
support		stakeholders.				
natural	Indicator 6:	42% (overall	+5% (overall score)	+20% (overall		
resource		•		score)		
conservatio	Change in capacities of key	score)	Capacities to	· '		
n and land	government institutions for	Capacities to	Generate, Access and Use Information and	Capacities to		
use decision	biodiversity conservation, PA	Generate,		Generate,		
making.	management and integrated	Access and	Knowledge: Baseline	Access and Use		
maxing.	natural resource	Use	+5%	Information and		
Outcome	management	Information	Conneities for	Knowledge:		
1.2.		and	Capacities for	Baseline +20%		
Institutional		Knowledge:	Strategy, Policy and	Conneities for		
		33%	Legislation	Capacities for		
frameworks		Capacities for	development: Baseline	Strategy, Policy		
and human		Strategy,	+ 5%	and Legislation		
resource		Policy and	Capacities to monitor	development:		
capacities		Legislation	and evaluate: Baseline	Baseline + 15%		
strengthene		development:	+ 5%	Capacities to		
d for the		44%		monitor and		
operationali		Capacities to		evaluate:		
zation of		monitor		Baseline + 20%		
the Forest		and evaluate:		Note: End of		
Policy, PA		33%		Project target to		
Policy and				be confirmed		
PA system				during inception		
1 11 System				workshop		

plan as well as for the implementa tion of related laws and regulations, resulting in improved biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and reduced forest loss and land degradation. Outcome 1.3. Increased capacities for financial sustainability.	Indicator 7: Financial sustainability of the PAs system, as indicated by the rating of the GEF TT Financial Scorecard.	60 (overall score)	+5% (overall score)	+30% (overall score)	
Componen t 2: National capacity built to provide financial, technical, and	Indicator 8: Change in management effectiveness of 2 terrestrial and 1 marine PA covering 15,460 ha, as measured by the METT	Central Mountain Forest Reserve: 51 Chatham Bay: 29 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 27	Central Mountain Forest Reserve: 60 Chatham Bay: 35 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 35	Central Mountain Forest Reserve: 70 Chatham Bay: 50 Leeward Coast Marine Park: 50	
information services for CSA production Outcome 2.1: Increased financing for supporting SLM and CSA at the	Indicator 9: Number of Priority KBAs and proportion (%) of total SVG KBAs that are integrated/included in the expanded PA estate (as indicated by Cabinet Submission for their legal protection)	1 KBAs, 7% – Cumberland Forest Reserve	1 KBA, 7% – Cumberland Forest Reserve	7 KBA, 47% - Cumberland Forest Reserve - Colonarie Forest Reserve - Dalaway Forest Reserve - Kingstown Forest Reserve - La Soufrière National Park - Mount Pleasant Forest Reserve - Richmond Forest Reserve	

national	Indicator 10:	0	0	3 PAs covering	
level	Number of the following new			at minimum	
	marine and terrestrial PAs			15,460 ha	
Outcome	legally gazetted, as measured			- Central	
2.2:	by the expansion in the			Mountain Forest	
National	coverage of the national PA			Reserve (13,214	
level	estate in ha			ha)	
capacities	-Central Mountain Forest			- Chatham Bay	
enhanced	Reserve (13,214 ha)			(63 ha, tbd)	
for CSA	-Chatham Bay (63 ha, tbd)			- Leeward Coast	
production	(GEF Core Indicator 1.1)			Marine Park	
Promotos				(2,183 ha)	
	-Leeward Coast Marine Park				
	(2,183 ha)				
	(GEF Core Indicator 2.1)				

Indicator Assessment Key

Green= Achieved	Yellow= On target to be achieved	Red= Not on target to be achieved
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ToR ANNEX I: GEF Co-Financing Template (provided as a separate file)