- **Improved water quality and availability**: The project supported SLM activities are expected to have strong benefits to local communities through maintenance/conservation of water sources (bore holes, water springs and rivers/streams), and through better management of vegetation cover and soil management (to retain water). Furthermore, the support by the project to convert a number of farmers to organic farming and for others to better use eco-friendly agriculture (such as integrated pest management), to move away domestic animals grazing from riparian areas, and to ensure that waterways are not polluted from domestic animal and household wastes are expected to lead to improved water quality. The project will support national capacities to monitor water quality regularly and to analyse and disseminate such information to local communities to aid SLM practices locally. Indicators for surface water quality will include - turbidity (sedimentation from soil erosion), and chemical analysis; and river flow (volume) taken at rivers in project sites. For underground water – changes in water volume and salinity (any increase in groundwater table or lowering of salinity due to the impact of SLM practices upon over-exploitation or reduced recharge of groundwater - measured through boreholes if available) will be monitored, amongst others.

- **Increased ecosystem services and products from sustainable forest management**: The project’s support to effectively manage at least 43000 ha of forests and an additional 6,600 ha of integrated landscape is expected to maintain and enhance forest products that local communities depend on – including non-timber forest products (such as traditional medicinal plants) and even fuel wood. Sustainable harvesting will ensure that communities will continue to benefit from such services from the forests for the long term. The socioeconomic benefits of this project at local level will be improved productivity of agricultural lands through better land and water management practices that are expected to halt or reduce soil degradation. In addition, the project’s work to support value chain development is expected to increase local employment and increase household level revenues. The project’s support is expected to lead to an increased productivity of crops, increased annual incomes per household and improved household food and energy security. These will be tracked during project implementation. The project’s main beneficiaries will also include women and the project will ensure thorough gender analysis to better promote equitable participation and benefit sharing in the project related actions, including strong gender dimensions as outlined in the national Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Sector Plan (2011). The project is expecting to involve at least 5000 households in the adoption of SLM activities.

- **Increased national capacities**: The project’s capacity building actions at the national level is expected to increase the capacities of over 100 national government staff on cutting-edge SLM knowledge and technologies. Additionally, over 15000 people from local communities will benefit from awareness raising and “learning-by-doing” the issues and methodologies on SLM. Such enhanced capacities will not only have positive socioeconomic benefits to the target communities, but also to the wider population of Samoa.

- **Improving the state of the bio-physical environment through the activities of the project will also improve the productivity and potential of land resources.** As a result of the project activities, targeted households are expected to increase their incomes by at least 10% from the baseline as a result of engaging in a new income generating activity or in a traditional activity improved by the application of SLM practices.

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**C. Next Steps** (for projects requiring further environmental and social review and management):

In this section, you should summarize actions that will be taken to deal with the above-listed issues. If your project has Category 2 or 3 components, then appropriate next steps will likely involve further environmental and social review and management, and the outcomes of this work should also be summarized here. Relevant guidance should be obtained from Section 7 for Category 2, and Section 8 for Category 3.
Please refer to Section A5 for the changes in project PIF based on some changes in local context (such as the impact of Cyclone and the opportunity the baseline funding for the Cyclone Recovery Programme has presented to ensure stronger sustainable land management in the affected areas etc.).

In terms of project implementation, using the UNDP social and environmental screening tool, the following two issues have been noted for project implementation stage:

- **On environmental management** - to ensure that there are no displacement of threats to ecosystems due to the conservation and sustainable management activities. That is, that by conserving certain areas, people do not undertake ecosystem destruction outside the project focus areas to replace harvesting of products etc. The project document has included Component 1 the need to assess wider landscape changes during project period to monitor and avoid any "leakage" of land degrading actions to non-target sites.

- **On social side**: the project needs to continue to monitor equity impacts of project activities and ensure that project activities are implemented fully respecting people's rights on full informed prior consent. Whilst the project has been designed with strong local participation, a paragraph under the project document's Component 1 has further stressed this point.

**D. Sign Off**

Project Manager

Date

PAC

Date

Programme Manager

Date