

IKI Growing Greener Project

Restoration and sustainable use of agro-pastoralist systems in open arid landscapes across Southern Africa

Regional ICKM IKI Sensitization Workshop on Rangeland Management and Herding for Health (H4H)

Southern Sun OR Tambo International Hotel,
Johannesburg, South Africa
23-25 September 2025

Background

- **75% of Southern Africa** covered by semi-arid to arid ecosystems, which offer rich biodiversity and eco-system services to local communities and economies
- **70% of the population** of the 16 SADC countries lives from **agriculture/livestock**
- **95% of Africa's natural rangelands** are considered degraded due to :
 - demographic growth of people and livestock
 - unsustainable land-use practices, esp. on communal lands
 - increase in droughts and floods because of climate change
 - conflicting/non-existent policy frameworks



Project Data

Project Name	IKI Growing Greener: Restoration and sustainable use of agro-pastoralist systems in open arid landscapes across Southern Africa
Consortium	GIZ, Conservation International (CI), Peace Parks Foundation (PPF), Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development (CCARDESA)
Countries	Botswana, Madagascar, South Africa, Zambia
Political Partners	Ministry of Lands and Agriculture, Botswana Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Madagascar Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, South Africa Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, Zambia
Duration	6 years (10/2023 – 09/29) commissioned by German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN)
Budget	20 million EUR

GG Approach: **Herding 4 Health model**

Making Africa's rangelands thrive for the benefit of people and nature

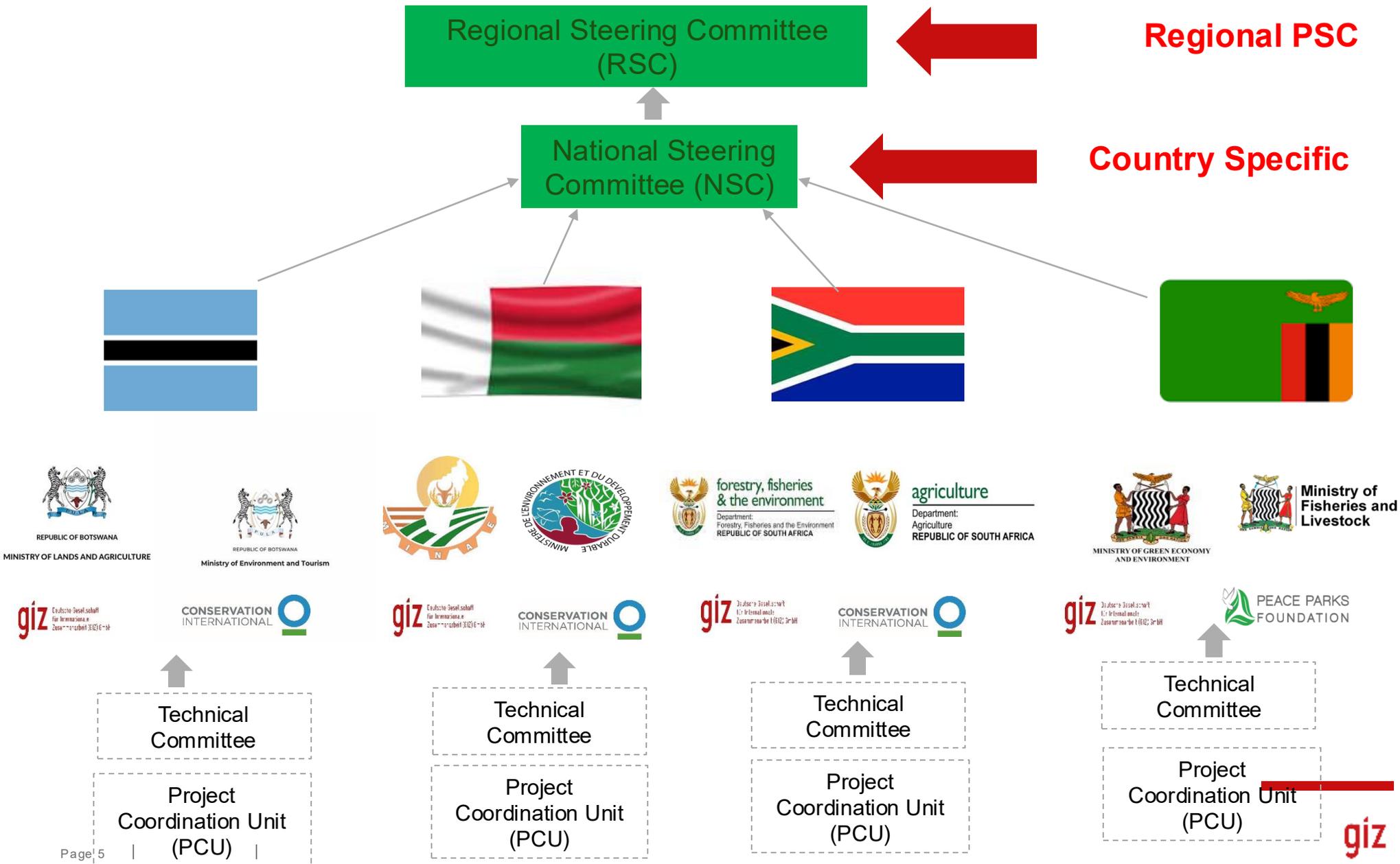
- H4H follows a ***holistic, community-driven*** model to address challenges faced by farmers living in and adjacent to protected areas.
- The concept is based on the premise that with proper livestock management, land degradation can be reversed, including the recharge of water resources and accumulation of carbon stocks in soils
- H4H => **holistic grazing & integrated rangeland management**

The model facilitates and integrates four pillars namely:

1. Healthy rangelands;
2. Healthy animals;
3. Thriving livelihoods;
4. The development of policies that incentivize the adoption of sustainable, climate smart and wildlife friendly livestock management practices.



STEERING STRUCTURE FOR THE IKI PROJECT

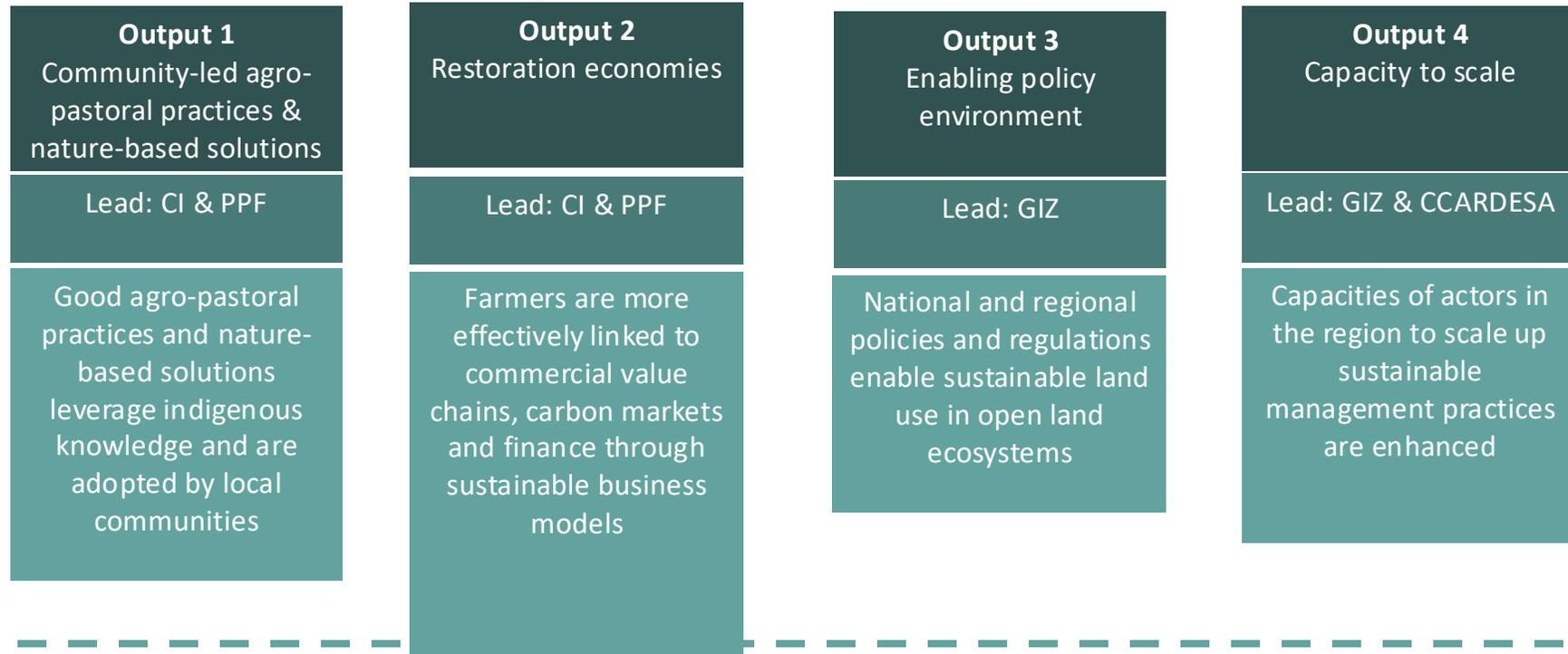


Results Matrix

Impact: Resilience of open land systems and associated agro-pastoral livelihoods to desertification and climate change is enhanced, biodiversity is better preserved, and soil health and carbon sequestration is increased

Outcome

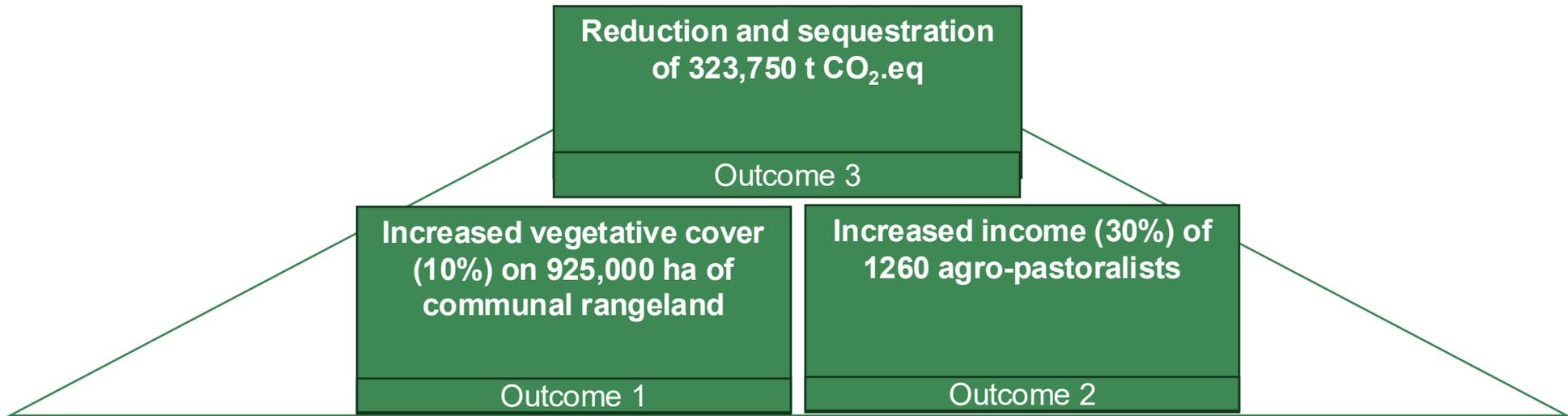
Community-led, market-oriented agro-pastoral land-use systems prevent soil and landscape degradation while fostering sustainable rural development



A LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM WITH CONSERVATION OUTCOMES -

NOT A CONSERVATION PROGRAM WITH LIVELIHOOD OUTCOMES

Outcomes and Outputs for the Growing Greener Project



30 villages adopted grazing plans	1,320 men & women signed conservation agreements	Improved income from existing and new livestock with project support for 840 men and women by 30%	Improved income of 420 micro, small & medium enterprises (50% women-led) selling amended or new livestock by-products by 30%	4 new or amended policy documents, strategies, regulations or guidelines on natural resource management	2000 men & women with capacity built through training and networking events in Growing Greener	15,000 views & 3,000 downloads from the new CCARDESA livestock subpage
Output 1		Output 2		Output 3	Output 4	

Where we work



Zambezi-Chobe Floodplain Wildlife Dispersal Area, Zambia component, KAZA

Ngamiland, KAZA, Botswana

Namaqualand, Northern Cape, South Africa

Atsimo Andrefana Region, Madagascar



International Relevancy

All four countries are party to the United Nations Convention to:

1. **Combat Desertification (UNCCD): Action target 15.3** aims to “combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world” by 2030.
1. **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): GBF Action target 2** (30% restoration)
1. **Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):** Adaptation (Art. 7) – enhance adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change. Nature-based Solutions (NBS)
1. **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
 - **SDG1:** End Poverty in all its forms everywhere.
 - **SDG2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
 - **SDG5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
 - **SDG8:** Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.
 - **SDG 12:** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
 - **SDG13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*
 - **SDG15:** Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

ccardesa.org/ccardesa-herding-health-h4h-knowledge-management-project